

How to Enjoy Hokkaido

How to enjoy Hokkaido on the cheap! Tips for visitors from abroad!



Koizumi Junsaku Art Museum

A Taste of Art in Autumn

Since 1933, many people have enjoyed *okashi* (sweets) made by Rokkatei in Hokkaido. But did you know that Rokkatei is also deeply involved in the cultural life of Hokkaido? To see this spirit in action, visit the village of Nakasatsunai and its *Rokkatei Aato Vireiji* (Art Village). Follow the wooden path through cedar woods to small art museums. Each art space is unique—whether modern architecture, an *ishizukuri no kura* (stone warehouse), or a restored *kominka* (thatched farmhouse)—and each museum houses works from a single artist. The result is that you feel as if you are drawn directly into each artist's unique vision and style. Here I describe four of the museums to give you an idea of the variety of art that you can experience. Junsaku Koizumi (1924-2012) created masterpieces of *nihonga* (Japanese-style painting) and ceramic art. In his museum, there are preliminary drawings for a temple's ceiling and *fusuma* (sliding doors). For a completely different art experience, visit the museum for Mizumaru Anzai (1942-2014), a well-known illustrator. As another example, I was amazed at the blending of *genjitsu* to *kioku* (reality and memory) in the works of Masami Mano (1958-), a painter who lives in Tokachi. Mano paints scenes that bring back memories of his childhood. After sketching and photographing on-site, it takes him three to twelve months to complete each *saimitsu-na-gikou* (detailed) painting. I also loved the realistic landscape paintings of Tomohiro Momose (1957-). These extraordinary paintings *yobiokosu* (evoke) vivid skies, dazzling light, and the smell of the wind. In this way, Rokkatei Art Village appeals to a variety of artistic tastes. (Museums and garden: Open from approximately the end of April to the end of October; Closes this year on October 28. Fridays-Sundays and holidays, 10:00-16:00; Free. Please confirm on website calendar.) After visiting these and the other remaining museums, you will appreciate a delicious meal made with *kisetsu no shokuzai* (seasonal ingredients) at Restaurant Poroshiri. (11:00-15:00, L.O. 14:30; Same days as museums but closed Fridays.) After an outing here, you will appreciate Rokkatei not only for the taste of its sweets, but for its taste in art!

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芸術の秋におすすめ!作品と建物が融合した新しい芸術体験。

北海道を代表するお菓子メーカー「六花亭」。実は北海道の文化にも深く関わっていることをご存知ですか?そのルーツを探るには「六花亭アートヴィレッジ 中札内美術村」へ。およそ14.5万平方メートルの広大な敷地内に小泉淳作(日本画家)や百瀬智宏(洋画家)らの作品を展示した4つの美術館と、安西水丸(イラストレーター)や十勝在住の画家・真野正美らの作品を展示した3つの作品館、旬の食材でつくる家庭料理を提供するレストランが点在しています。美術館と作品館は現代建築や古民家、石造りの蔵など作家に合わせた様式になっていることで、より作品の世界観に没頭できる空間に。芸術の秋こそ訪れるべきスポット。きっとあなたも気に入ります。

文＝米坂スザンヌ(米国カリフォルニア生まれ、フランス語学士、英語修士。1983年から札幌在住。北海学園大学人文学部名誉教授。)

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※「六花亭アートヴィレッジ 中札内美術村」の今期の営業は10月27日まで。10月28日から来年4月末(予定)は冬季休業。