Open-Air Museum of Old Japanese Farmhouses

Museum Hours
9:30 am to 5:00 pm (Last admission at 4:30 pm)
Closed on Mondays
(or Tuesdays when a national holiday) and Dec. 27–Jan. 4.

Getting to the Museum
• About 1 km west of Ryokuchi-Koen Station on the Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line
  (connects to the Subway Midosuji Line)
• About 2 km east of Sone Station on the Hankyu Takarazuka Line

The Open-Air Museum of Old Japanese Farmhouses is an outdoor museum where representative houses from throughout Japan have been moved and restored for exhibition along with related items and implements from daily living. Located on grounds of about 36,000 m² inside Hattori Ryokuchi Park in Toyonaka City, Osaka Prefecture, the museum has on display 12 farmhouses such as the Nambu Magariya from as far north as Iwate to the Takakura from as far south as Amami Oshima. These houses were all built in the Edo period (17th-19th century) and are imbued with the style created by the climate, culture, and customs characteristic to each locality. The clever use of the natural surroundings and wisdom applied by people at the time to live in harmony are in display throughout these structures. Each style of living transcends the depths of time to convey to us quietly important messages.

Entrance Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>High school students</th>
<th>Elementary and junior high school students</th>
<th>Younger children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>individuals</td>
<td>500 yen</td>
<td>400 yen</td>
<td>300 yen</td>
<td>200 yen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>senior citizens</td>
<td>400 yen</td>
<td>200 yen</td>
<td>150 yen</td>
<td>Free of charge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over Japan in one place

Visiting Regulations
This is an outdoor museum in which valuable houses are on display that have been designated as Important Cultural Properties, either nationally or by Osaka Prefecture. We ask that visitors cooperate in exercising adequate care to make sure that these structures are properly preserved.

• Smoking is prohibited inside the museum grounds. (Those who wish to smoke are requested to do so at the indicated locations.)
• Alcohol must not be brought into the museum, nor is eating or drinking permitted in the houses.
• Sketching, the photographing of people, and the use of tripods are prohibited in the houses.
• Prior authorization is required for photographing on filming for photo sessions, commercial purposes, journalistic purposes, or academic purposes.
• In order to prevent the occurrence of accidents, we ask that visitors refrain from entering areas designated as off-limits (inside of fences such as those of the bamboo grove).
• Please refrain from gathering any plants, flowers, or insects.
• Visitors are asked to take their rubbish with them as they exit the museum.

Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2013

View old houses from all over Japan in one place
Open-Air Museum of Old Japanese Farmhouses

1. The Nagayamon Gate from Kawachi Fuse (Osaka)
   The front gate for our museum, this structure was used as the gate of a village master’s house in the Edo period. It has a storage room on the left and a room for servants on the right.

2. Farmhouse from Hyuga Shiiba (Miyazaki)
   Important Cultural Property
   Originally located in a mountainous district, this house is constructed in a long and narrow style, with rooms arranged in a row, facing the front. “Shinto Kagura” sacred dances were performed to a local audience inside the house.

3. Farmhouse from Shinano Aikoma (Niigata)
   Important Cultural Property
   This house was built in an L-shaped style with its entrance projecting out at the front, known as the “chumon-zukuri” style. Previously located in a mountainous area with deep snow, it also has such unique features as thickly thatched walls, and earthen floors covered in hay with straw mats set on top.

4. Farmhouse from Yamato Totsukawa (Nara)
   Osaka Prefectural Tangible Cultural Property
   The style of this house is narrow because its village was situated in a valley. It also has wooden boards called “uchioroshi” under the eaves to protect the house from heavy wind and rain.

5. Farmhouse from Echizen Tsuruga (Fukuoka)
   Osaka Prefectural Tangible Cultural Property
   Since this house is originally located in a region with heavy snowfall, it is constructed solidly with many thick beams. The floor of the kitchen used to be earthen and is lower than the floor of the other rooms. It is a vestige of the former custom of living on the earth floor.

6. Chashitsu Teahouse from Kitakawanishi Osaka
   This teahouse was used for holding traditional Japanese tea ceremonies.

7. Magariya from Nambu
   Osaka Prefectural Tangible Cultural Property
   This L-shaped house is called a “magariya” (st. bent house) in Japanese due to its appearance. A dwelling and stable were combined to offer a structure that was convenient for observing the stable in winter—residents did not need to go out because they could see it across the yard from their living area.

8. Rural Kabuki Theater from Shodoshima (Kagawa)
   Osaka Prefectural Tangible Folk Cultural Property
   This theater was originally built within the precincts of a shrine, where the whole village would gather to watch as well as themselves perform in kabuki plays.

9. Takakura Elevated Storehouse from Amami Oshima (Kagoshima)
   Osaka Prefectural Tangible Cultural Property
   A “takakura” is a storehouse elevated from the ground in order to protect the grain from humidity. It can be accessed by ladder. The wooden pillars of the building are so hard that even mice cannot climb them.

10. Farmhouse from Settsu Nose (Osaka)
    Important Cultural Property
    The plan of this house is unique to the Nose region. It is divided into two areas, one of which has an earthen floor. The floor of the kitchen used to be shared to make it easier to climb in the snow. It is a vestige of the former custom of living on the earth floor.

11. Gassho-zukuri Farmhouse from Hida Shirakawa
    Osaka Prefectural Tangible Folk Cultural Property
    The style of this house is known as “gassho-zukuri” because its steep roof resembles two hands pressed together in proper “gassho” in Japanese. The villages of Hida Shirakawa were long-known for their unique society of large families. Shirakawago, a village of farmhouses built in this style, was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1995.

12. Rice Granary from Dojima Osaka
   In the Edo period, Osaka was known as a center of commerce in Japan and many granaries owned by feudal lords lined the banks of the Dojima River.

You can view old houses from all over Japan in one place.

Illustrator: Chikako Ishikawa