

Eastern Hokkaido

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Teshikaga calendar of four seasons

Birthplace of a great yokozuna of the Showa era

Memories of Taiho



Win specialties of Teshikaga!

Travel in Teshikaga quiz rally 2013



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Let's go out! to what you can only have here and now

Experience Teshikaga!

Let's Experience Teshikaga together!

01

Course to make memories for children



Family model course

Memo

Mapcodes are code numbers that represent locations with numbers. Destinations can be found easily by entering corresponding codes into a compatible car navigation system.

The Ishikawas are a family of four - Mr. and Mrs. Ishikawa (40 and 39 years old), a son in the fourth grade (9 years old) and a daughter in the first grade (6 years old). They planned this trip to help the children grow up from the experience.

There are many more!
Recommended spots
Teshikaga



Kussharo Kotan Ainu Folk Museum

The facility on the bank of Lake Kussharo presents the history, culture and customs of the Ainu.

11, 1-jo dori Aza-Kussharo-shigai, Teshikaga

731 521 286



Kotan Onsen open-air bath

A free hot spring at Kotan on the south side of Lake Kussharo. Although there are separate changing rooms for men and women, it is practically a mixed bath.

Kussharo Kotan, Teshikaga

731 521 557



Tour guide
Yuya TSUCHIDA

Winter is great!
Let's put on snow shoes and go to see the entirely frozen Lake Kussharo and Lake Mashu surrounded by ice on trees. A hot spring bath after playing in the snow is also great!

Comment from a guide



Watanabe Taiken Bokujyo (Experience Farm)

Time required: approx. 40 min. - 731 354 581

This farm with 120 milk cows on its 70-hectare pasture has a variety of activities in which parents and children can experience dairy farming. Children will be able to make long-lasting memories by having a tour around the grassland on a tractor, milking cows and making/eating butter and ice cream made from the milk. The farm also sells a wide range of dairy and farm products to take home.



Lake Kussharo

Time required: approx. 90 min. - 638 148 559



▲Japan's largest caldera lake (57 km in circumference) surrounded by hot springs where open-air baths can be enjoyed.

The mysterious, beautiful deep blue water of the lake touches the hearts of visitors. There are Sunayu, Wakoto and other hot springs in the surrounding area, where free open-air baths can be enjoyed while viewing the lake. In addition to canoeing and fishing to have contact with nature, it will also be fun to be cradled in the lake on a glass-bottom pleasure boat.



Wakoto Peninsula

Time required: approx. 60 min. - 731 577 022



▲A recommended course is a one-hour walk on the nature trail on the south side of Lake Kussharo.

A little island made of lava that erupted from the underground on the south side of Lake Kussharo was later connected with the lakeside by accumulated sand and earth and formed a peninsula. At the base of the peninsula are souvenir shops, hot spring inns, campsites and boat boarding points. Volcanic activities can still be seen at the Oyakotsu Jigoku at the tip of the peninsula.

Let's go!

A recommended course to make pleasant memories for the entire family



Lake Kussharo (viewed from Binoro Pass)

02

Course for a carefree trip alone

Memo

Mr. Kawasaki (28 years old) is a company employee living in Tokyo. He has a busy life being chased by time. As a treat for himself, he planned a trip that is completely different from his everyday life.



Course for a trip alone



Lake Mashu Star Journey

🕒 Time required: approx. 90 min. -

The dark night sky is filled with bright stars. Have this beautiful starry sky that cannot be seen in cities all to yourself. 1st Lookout of Lake Mashu in the darkness of night is the best spot for star watching. A courtesy bus can be used by booking before 6:30 p.m. of the day at hotels in Kawayu Onsen. As a special guide gives comments, the tour can be enjoyed even without knowledge of stars. The registration fees are ¥2,000 for adults and ¥1,000 for elementary and junior high school children.



Comment from a guide

Tour guide of Lake Mashu Star Journey
Yasuhiro SHIRAISHI

Unlike the busy daytime, the nighttime of Lake Mashu is ruled by darkness. Twinkling stars of the Milky Way can be enjoyed in this area where artificial lights do not reach. A fantastic view of stars reflected on the lake may also be seen on windless nights.

There are many more!
Recommended spots
in Jeshikaga



UraMashu Lookout

The observatory on the northeast side of Lake Mashu is the only place where the lake can be viewed from the back side.

Kiyozumi, Kiyosato, Shari-gun

☎ 910 038 740



Bihoro Pass

The Bihoro Pass commanding a panoramic view of Lake Kussharo became known throughout Japan as it was the location of the movie *Kimi no na wa* (What is your name?).

Furuume, Bihoro, Abashiri-gun

☎ 638 225 285



Kinmuto

Kinmuto is a quiet pond in the medieval forest spreading on the south side of Mt. Ioh. It is a two-hour walk from the Kawayu Eco Museum Center through a 7 km nature trail.

☎ 731 648 329



Mt. Mokoto

The mountain has an almost circular shape and is the highest peak of the somma of Lake Kussharo at 999.6 m above sea level.

Furuume, Bihoro, Abashiri-gun

☎ 638 445 185

Kaminoko Pond

🕒 Time required: approx. 60 min.- ☎ 910 216 134



▲ This fantastic pond having its source in Lake Mashu looks emerald blue as its water is very clear.

The word "mysterious" fits to this pond which is distant from the tourist route. The water level of Lake Mashu is stable throughout the year because 12,000 tons of water springs out to this pond every day. The clear water through which swimming fish and trees on the bottom of the 5-meter-deep pond can be seen looks emerald blue on sunny days.

Shiretoko National Park Natural Heritage

🕒 Time required: approx. 90 min.- ☎ 757 409 505



▲ A sanctuary of Blakiston's fish owl and other precious wildlife, registered as a world natural heritage site in June 2005

The Shiretoko Peninsula covered with dense primeval forests is known for autumn salmon swimming up the river and inhabitation of wild animals including protected species. It is exciting to follow the driving course of the Shiretoko National Highway along the Sea of Okhotsk looking at the Shiretoko mountains, or the Shiretoko Five Lakes nature trail, which is closed when brown bears make an appearance.

Let's go!

An active course starting from Lake Mashu to Shiretoko National Park

Day 1



Day 2



Shiretoko Goko Lakes nature trail

Course for girls - a trip of three friends



Memo

Ms. Sugano, Ms. Sasaki and Ms. Tabata (24 years old) who always have fun together in girls-only gatherings planned a trip to fully enjoy activities in Teshikaga.

There are many more!

Recommended spots

Teshikaga



Sunflower fields

The two sunflower fields along Route 243 and Route 241 between downtown Teshikaga and Bihoro Pass bloom as if they are enjoying the short summer of Teshikaga.

Along Route 243 ☎ 731 490 103

Along Route 241 ☎ 462 817 384



Biruwa spring water

Water of lake Mashu springs from underground at this famous place of spring water in the Biruwa area of Teshikaga.

Biruwa, Teshikaga

☎ 731 441 659



900 Grassland (town farm)

It has a four-course, 36-hole park golf course approved by the Nippon Park Golf Association and a barbecue area.

Tobetsu, Teshikaga

☎ 462 729 347



Sakuragaoka Forest Park Auto Campground

It is an easily accessible campsite in the forest park that is a five-minute drive from downtown Teshikaga.

Sakuragaoka, Teshikaga

☎ 462 819 167

🏠 Roadside station Mashu Onsen

🕒 Time required: approx. 30 to 40 min. ☎ 462 849 695



▲ Popular for clean rest rooms open 24 hours a day and footbaths

The roadside station Mashu Onsen is a base for transmitting tourist and other local information. It sells vegetables and other local products, and the local staff provides information on sightseeing, accommodations and first-hand experience programs. The Yezo deer burger (¥400) and Mashu pork burger (¥500) from the takeout corner are satisfying both in taste and volume.

🐎 Horse trekking

🕒 Time required: approx. 40 min. -



▲ Even people who are new to horseback riding can enjoy it safely with a guide.

Enjoying horseback riding in Teshikaga can be a memorable experience. There are a number of activities from horse leading in the facility (riding grounds) for beginners to the long-term horse trekking program with lunch. An attraction of horseback riding is seeing things from a high position. Take your time and enjoy the scenery on horseback. It is an experience that is hard to have outside eastern Hokkaido.

🚣 Canoeing

🕒 Time required: approx. 90 min. -

The Kushiro River having its source in Lake Kussharo is known as a dream of canoe lovers throughout Japan. This can be another fun experience of the trip. With a special guide, even women with no experience can enjoy canoeing down the river. At the head of the Kushiro River where the stream is quiet, the water is clear enough to see the bottom of the river. The only sounds there are the cries of birds and murmuring of the stream. The relaxing teatime on a canoe is a blissful moment.



Comment from a guide

River & Field Shigetoshi TSUCHIYA

The attraction of the head of the Kushiro River is a natural setting, which is like a miniature garden with an abundant flow of clear water surrounded by natural riverside forests and wetland.



Let's go!

An active girls' trip is the real pleasure of Teshikaga.

Day 1



Day 2



Horse trekking

04

Hot-spring therapy course ideal for tourists over 60



Memo

Mrs. Kaori Kawasaki (62 years old) planned a trip of hot-spring therapy for her husband, Mr. Takashi Kawasaki (65 years old), who had just retired after working for many years. They decided to have a relaxing stay to enjoy hot springs in Teshikaga.



Mt. Ioh nature trail

🕒 Time required: approx. 55 min. -

Mt. Ioh situated approximately 3 km south of Kawayu Onsen is the second most famous tourist spot after Lake Mashu. The entire mountain looks yellow because of sulfur gushing out from many places. The nature trail (approx. 2.5 km, 55 min. on foot) between Kawayu Onsen and Mt. Ioh is an ideal course for strolling. Large colonies of alpine plants, including white Marsh tea and Siberian dwarf fir, appear after walking through the forests of Sakhalin spruce and white birch. There is a tour with a guide from 5:45 every morning between June 10 and September 10.



Comment
from a guide

Tour guide
Takanori ABE

Secrets of hot spring water created by Mt. Ioh, volcanic activities and alpine plant colonies can be enjoyed along the Tsutsujigahara nature trail (approx. 2.5 km) between Kawayu Onsen and Mt. Ioh. The view of Marsh tea in full bloom in June is overwhelming!

There are many more!
Recommended spots

in Teshikaga



Footbath in Kawayu Onsen

The footbath in the Kawayu area is the first one in the town. It has an arbor and can be used free of charge.

Kawayu Onsen Enchi, Teshikaga

☎ 731 802 232



Kawayu Onsen Station

The station has an old-fashioned, nostalgic atmosphere. It also has a footbath that can be enjoyed free of charge.

1-1-18, Kawayu-ekimae, Teshikaga

☎ 731 715 613



Wakoto Onsen open-air bath

The free open-air bath at the base of Wakoto Peninsula is popular among the users of the nearby campsite.

Wakoto, Aza-Kussharo, Teshikaga

☎ 731 577 445



Kawayu Eco Museum Center

The visitor center located in the Kawayu Onsen area presents the history and nature of the Kussharo caldera.

2-2-6, Kawayu Onsen, Teshikaga

☎ 731 802 075

Relaxing tour of hot springs

🕒 Time required: approx. 120 min.



▲Kawayu has highly acidic water very similar to that of Kusatsu.

Teshikaga has famous hot springs, including Kawayu Onsen (highly acidic spring) with an attractive atmosphere of a hot spring resort, Mashu Onsen (weak salt spring) that has the longest history in eastern Hokkaido and Nibushi Onsen (simple spring) near the bank of Lake Kussharo. Enjoying hot springs with different qualities and atmospheres can be a highlight of the trip.

Tour of folk craft stores in downtown Kawayu

🕒 Time required: approx. 60 min.



▲Each shop has many heartwarming folk crafts on display.

Another attraction of the downtown Kawayu area is a series of unique folk craft stores. Charming wooden ornaments, ceramic works and other handmade crafts are all unique and of excellent quality. Many works featuring wild animals and other natural subjects are also characteristic of these folk crafts.

Let's go!

Course to take time and enjoy the stay in Kawayu Onsen





Teshikaga calendar of four seasons

Teshikaga offers a variety of events and tourist attractions throughout the year!

Spring when buds grow, summer with clear sunny skies,
autumn full of harvests from the land and winter of dignified beauty --
Teshikaga shows different faces in different seasons of the year.



Mt. Pon-Pon



Mt. Pon-Pon, which can be climbed from the entrance to Nibushi, was named as it sounds - "pon pon" when stepping on the ground of the mountain.

Tsutsujigahara nature trail



It is a nature trail leading from the Kawayu Onsen area, through the forest and to Tsutsujigahara. It has large alpine plant colonies, including white Marsh tea and Siberian dwarf fir.

Expedition in darkness



A nature guide familiar with local natural features guides visitors to the "best spot" of the night.

● Organizer: Tourism Teshikaga

Sunayu



A handmade open-air bath can be enjoyed as hot spring water gushes out if you dig the sand at the edge of the water of Lake Kussharo.

Temperature in April, May and June (normal values)

	April	May	June
Average	2.6°C	8.1°C	11.8°C
Highest	7.3°C	13.7°C	16.6°C
Lowest	-2.0°C	2.9°C	7.6°C

Recommended clothing

It is better to bring a coat or cardigan to put on top as there are still some cold days. In April, it is more comfortable to wear gloves and a hat if possible.



Cycling



The Teshikaga Town Office is currently improving its cycling environment by setting various courses for cyclers of all levels.

Shinsoba Festival



The town produces approximately 100 tons of buckwheat a year. Visitors can enjoy tasty noodles using new "Mashuko" buckwheat flour that is gaining popularity for its quality.

● Scheduled to be held in late August

Park golf



Hokkaido is the birthplace of park golf, which is popular for its easiness to play. There are nine courses in the town.

Mashu melon



The Mashu melon has a high sugar content. It is also known as the "dream melon" as it is not on the market.

Temperature in July, August and September (normal values)

	July	August	September
Average	15.8°C	17.7°C	14.3°C
Highest	20.0°C	21.7°C	18.4°C
Lowest	12.3°C	14.4°C	10.3°C

Recommended clothing

While a short-sleeve shirt should be sufficient in the daytime on many days, it is recommended to bring a thin jumper or cardigan as it gets cooler in the morning and evening.



Tour of open-air baths



There are open-air baths in different parts of the town, such as Ikenoyu, Wakoto Peninsula, Sunayu, Kotan-no-yu and Nibushi Onsen, where various types of bathing can be enjoyed.

Climbing Mt. Mashu



Alpine plants can be viewed from the 7.2-km-long climbing course thick with bamboo grass. There are Lake Mashu and Mt. Mashu on the left and the Konsen Plain spreads on the right of the course.

Canoeing



Be sure to enjoy canoeing in Lake Kussharo and the Kushiro River, which are called a "sanctuary" among canoe lovers.

Colored leaves



Leaves of bright colors are reflected on the water of Lake Kussharo in autumn. This season with many fine days is ideal for autumn leaf-viewing.

Temperature in October, November and December (normal values)

	October	November	December
Average	8.6°C	1.7°C	-4.0°C
Highest	13.3°C	6.1°C	-0.3°C
Lowest	3.5°C	-3.3°C	-8.5°C

Recommended clothing

While a coat or cardigan should be sufficient in October, it is better to prepare for the cold in November and December by wearing a long coat. A hat, scarf and gloves are also necessary.



Omiwatari (god's crossing) phenomenon



The Omiwatari phenomenon that occurs when the ice of Lake Kussharo swells is the largest scale of its kind in Japan. A mysterious sound can be heard from the early evening to morning on cold days.

Swans



Approximately 300 swans spend a winter throughout Lake Kussharo. In some places, swans can be viewed from open-air baths.

Snow shoe tour



Even those who are new to snow shoes can tour safely with the instruction of a guide.

Diamond dust in Kawayu



Approximately 30,000 illuminations shine in the Yunokawa Enchi in which hot spring water flows. The lights among clouds of white steam create a fantastic view at night.

Temperature in January, February and March (normal values)

	January	February	March
Average	-7.6°C	-7.5°C	-3.7°C
Highest	-3.8°C	-3.6°C	0.1°C
Lowest	-12.3°C	-12.0°C	-8.2°C

Recommended clothing

It is recommended to wear shoes with patterns on the soles to walk on snow, in addition to a down jacket or long coat, hat, scarf and gloves as protection against the cold.



Birthplace of a great yokozuna of the Showa era

Memories of Taiho



A brilliantly shining superstar in the history of sumo passed away on January 19, 2013.

This column is dedicated to the memories of Taiho who had close connection with Teshikaga.

Taiho, who was born in Sakhalin, Russia, on May 29, 1940, returned to Hokkaido in 1945 when World War II ended (5 years old). When he was 11, his family moved to Atosanobori, Teshikaga. After graduating from junior high school, he studied in the part-time course of Teshikaga High School while working for the local forestry office.

When the Nishonoseki party toured to Kunneppu in 1956, Taiho decided to drop out of the school and enter the sumo world with encouragement from a local former wrestler. His mother was against it at first, but finally agreed by the persuasion of family members who came to know about the emphasis on courtesy in the sumo world. Taiho went through the harsh training regime and was promoted to yokozuna (highest rank of grand champion) approximately five years after making his debut and one year after entering tournaments in the middle ranks. This record has not been broken as of 2012. During his career, Taiho was also active in charitable work. He donated televisions to elderly and other facilities, and a total of 70 blood transport vehicles (Taiho-go) to the Japanese Red Cross Society. In 1982, he received the Lions Clubs International's Humanitarian Award, which was also received by the Pope.

Award-winning record

1969 Dark-blue Ribbon Medal (received 7 more after that)	2000 Hokkaido Prefectural Honor Award
1970 Japan Professional Sports Grand Prize	2004 Purple Ribbon Medal
1982 Lions Clubs International's Humanitarian Award	2005 Special Sports Award (Hokkaido Shimbun)
1991 Teshikaga Honorary Citizen Award	2008 First honorary citizen of the Koto Ward, Tokyo
1996 Sports Lifetime Achievement Award	2009 Person of Cultural Merit Award
1997 Tokyo American Club Professional Sports Award	2011 Order of Merit (Ukraine)
	2013 People's Honor Award



Taiho Sumo Museum

A museum to commemorate the achievement of a great yokozuna of the Showa era, Taiho (real birth name Koki Naya), is in the Kawayu area in the northern part of Akan National Park.

At the entrance, a bronze statue of Taiho, which was moved from Kawayu Elementary School at the time of the museum's opening in 1984, welcomes visitors with an affectionate look.

2-1-20, Kawayu Onsen, Teshikaga

TEL 731 772 869

Taiho was also a part of a famous phrase

"Kyojin, Taiho, Tamagoyaki"



In the 1960s when Japan's economy was booming with high growth, Taiho was in the prime of his career, being promoted to a yokozuna in 1961 and winning all six tournaments in 1963 and 1967. In those days, the Kyojin (Giants) won one-sided victories in the Japan Series (baseball) in 1961 and 1963, and was crowned with the championships for nine consecutive years from 1965. Because of these factors, the phrase "Kyojin, Taiho, Tamagoyaki (fried egg)" became popular as the three favorite things among children. After his retirement, Taiho opened the Taiho stable and fostered 14 ranking wrestlers including former sekiwake Ozutsu.

Taiho data

Height:	187 cm
Weight:	153 kg
Blood type:	B
Debut:	September 1956
Entry into the juryo division:	May 1959
Entry into the makuuchi division:	January 1960
Period in the makuuchi division:	69 tournaments
Preferred techniques:	forcing out with a left-handed belt grip, beltless arm throw, arm throw with an outside grip
Career record:	872 wins, 182 losses and 136 absences
Record in makuuchi:	746 wins, 144 losses and 136 absences
Retirement:	May 1971
Date of death:	January 19, 2013 (72 years old)

A little maniac...

Teshikaga Tabi Quiz Rally 2013

弟子屈たびクイズラリー 2013

Answer these quizzes to win specialties of Teshikaga! You should be able to answer all of them if you have been to the town!



A Taiho senbei (box of 20 pieces)
3 winners at each time (9 winners in total)



B MASHU buckwheat noodles (set of three servings)
3 winners at each time (9 winners in total)



C MASHU buckwheat shochu "Soba" (720 ml bottle)
3 winners at each time (9 winners in total)

Q1. What is the sign written on the Kusshii statue at Sunayu by Lake Kussharo?

Q2. What is the device that activates whenever someone crosses the Nandaro Bridge near Suigo Park in Teshikaga?

Q3. What is the name of the hot spring bath facility in Roadside Station MASHU Onsen that is open 24 hours a day?

Q4. How long was your trip and how many nights did you stay in Teshikaga during the trip?

Q5. Where was the place in Teshikaga (including the Kawayu and Kussharo areas) that you liked the most?

Application period

- July 1 (Mon.) - September 30 (Mon.), 2013 * As indicated by the postmark on the envelope
- October 1 (Tue.), 2013 - January 31 (Fri.), 2014 * As indicated by the postmark on the envelope
- February 1 (Sat.) - May 31 (Sat.), 2014 * As indicated by the postmark on the envelope

Application method

- Send a postcard with your address, name, telephone number and the answers to **Q1 to Q5**.
- Only one application per family.
- Personal information provided for the application will not be used for any purposes other than the gift shipment.

Announcement of winners

Winners will receive the prize without prior announcement. The prizes are scheduled to be sent two weeks after the closing date of each application period. Please note that there may be some delay in the shipment of prizes.

Mailing address

Teshikaga Tabi Quiz Rally 2013, c/o Lake MASHU Tourist Association, Chuo 1-5-1, Teshikaga, Kawakami-gun, Hokkaido 088-3211



Teshikaga area access map

Sightseeing/transport

JR Mashu Station	015-482-2030
Akan Bus Kawayu Branch	015-483-2128
Mashu Sightseeing Rent-a-car	015-482-2260
Times Car Rental	015-482-5688
Mashu Hire	015-482-3939
Taiho Sumo Museum	015-483-2924
Kussharo Kotan Ainu Folk Museum	015-484-2128
Kawayu Eco Museum Center	015-483-4100
Lake Mashu Rest House	015-482-1530
Mt. Ioh Rest House	015-483-3511
900 Sogen Rest House	015-482-5009
Sunayu Rest House	015-484-2106

Government offices/post offices/hospitals

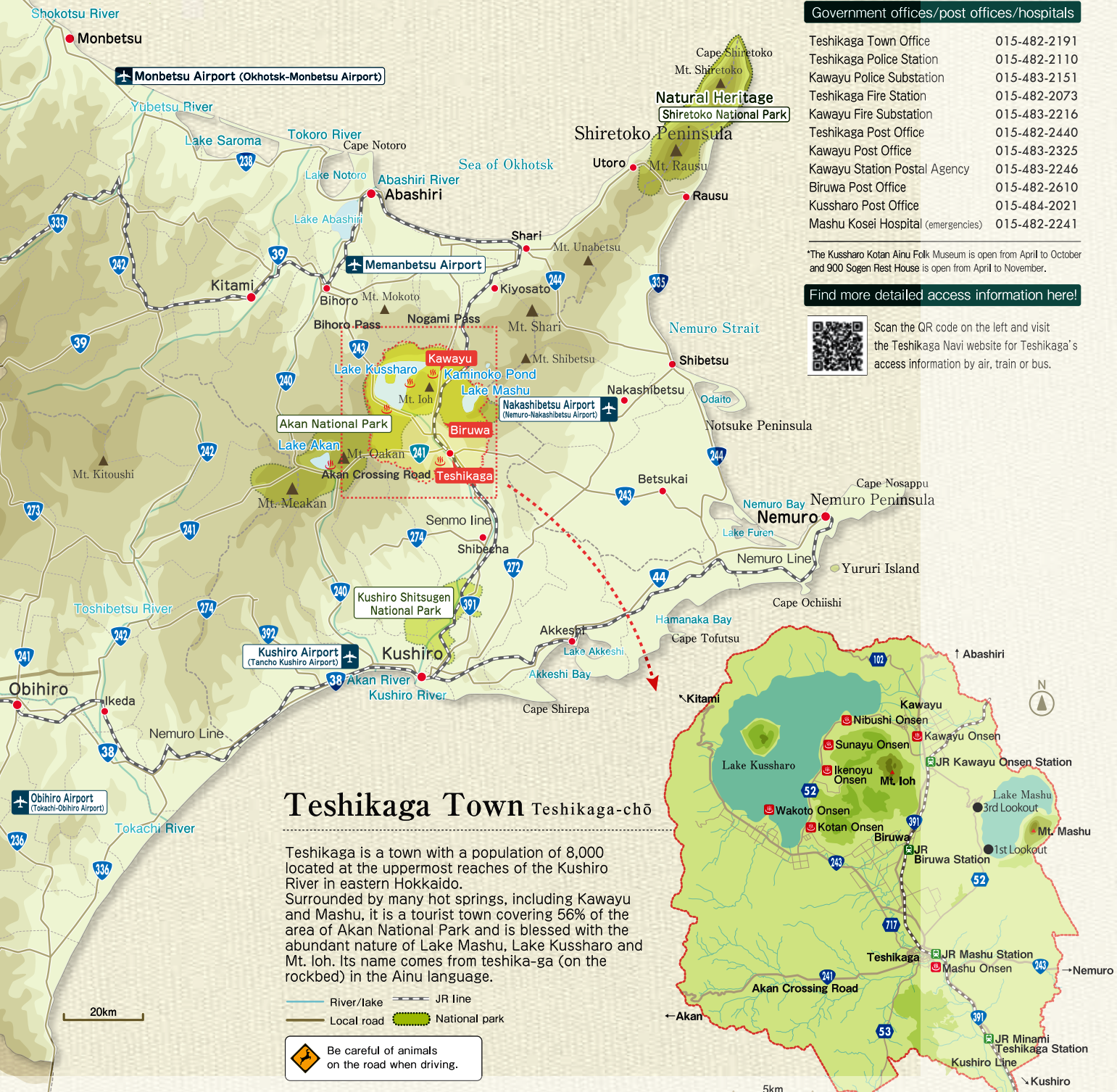
Teshikaga Town Office	015-482-2191
Teshikaga Police Station	015-482-2110
Kawayu Police Substation	015-483-2151
Teshikaga Fire Station	015-482-2073
Kawayu Fire Substation	015-483-2216
Teshikaga Post Office	015-482-2440
Kawayu Post Office	015-483-2325
Kawayu Station Postal Agency	015-483-2246
Biruwa Post Office	015-482-2610
Kussharo Post Office	015-484-2021
Mashu Kosei Hospital (emergencies)	015-482-2241

*The Kussharo Kotan Ainu Folk Museum is open from April to October and 900 Sogen Rest House is open from April to November.

Find more detailed access information here!



Scan the QR code on the left and visit the Teshikaga Navi website for Teshikaga's access information by air, train or bus.



Teshikaga Town Teshikaga-chō

Teshikaga is a town with a population of 8,000 located at the uppermost reaches of the Kushiro River in eastern Hokkaido. Surrounded by many hot springs, including Kawayu and Mashu, it is a tourist town covering 56% of the area of Akan National Park and is blessed with the abundant nature of Lake Mashu, Lake Kussharo and Mt. Ioh. Its name comes from teshika-ga (on the rockbed) in the Ainu language.



For inquiries about sightseeing

Lake Mashu Tourist Association

015-482-2200

Teshikaga navi

Portal site of Teshikaga tourist information

第子屈なび Search

http://www.masyuko.or.jp

Published by Teshikaga Town Office

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