

## Hoheikyo Hot Springs

Some of the hot springs around Sapporo are popular among day-trippers. Hoheikyo Onsen is one such hot spring. The spring water is all natural and is not re-heated or mixed with tap water. The open-air baths are surrounded by mountains. At a restaurant, you can enjoy authentic Indian curry, handmade soba noodles, and *jingisukan* (grilled-cooked lamb). Outdoors, large *kamakura* (igloo) welcome you. Though it depends on the snow condition, *jingisukan* is served in the *kamakura* with reservation (¥2,400 with a ticket for the bath). Adm.: ¥1,000 for jr. high and over, ¥500 for elem. and under, free for age 2 and under. Hours: 10 a.m.–10:30 p.m. Address: Minami-ku Jozankei 608-2. Access: an 80-min. bus ride from JR Sapporo Sta. A day-trip ticket including round trip bus fare and entrance fee costs ¥1,800 for adults (¥900 for children). •Info: Hoheikyo Onsen ☎598-2410 <<http://hoheikyo.co.jp>>



## Sightseeing Bus

Hokkaido Chuo Bus Co., Ltd. is now providing multilingual audio bus tours guided in English, Chinese and Korean from Sapporo Sta. Bus Terminal. (1) Shiroyo Koibito Park and Central Wholesale Market Tour Dep.: 8:50 a.m. Return: 1:15 p.m. Fee: ¥2,600 (elem. & under ¥1,300). (2) Mt. Okura Ski Jump Stadium and Hitsujigaoka Observation Hill Tour Dep.: 2 p.m. Return: 5:35 p.m. Fee: ¥2,600 (¥1,300). (3) Shiroyo Koibito Park, Exploring Otaru Canal and Yoichi Winter Tour (no multilingual audio guide) Dep.: 9:50 a.m. Return: 6:05 p.m. Fee: ¥4,400 (¥2,550). (4) Asahiyama Zoo Winter One-Day Tour (no multilingual audio guide). Dep.: 9 a.m. Return: 6:50 p.m. Fee: ¥4,900 (¥2,100). •For more info and to make a reservation, visit the website <<http://teikan.chuo-bus.co.jp/en/course/>>



## “Real Momotaro Dentetsu” Game

**Mar. 25 & 26**

Real Momotaro Dentetsu is an experience type event based on a famous board-game style video game Momotaro Dentetsu. How to play: (1) 2-8 players are required for each team, and at least one of them needs to download a special smartphone app. (2) Start the app to throw a dice and move according to the number on it. For example, go to the second subway station from the current station if the dice says “two.” (3) Go to the check point near the station and scan the QR code with the smartphone to answer a question. The players can get points if the answer is correct, and the team that gets the most points will win a prize. Ticket: ¥3,500 for adult (advance ¥3,000), ¥1,700 (¥1,500) for elem. One-day card: ¥520 for adult, ¥260 for elem. Date: Mar. 25 (Sat.) & 26 (Sun.). Gathering place: Doshin Hall (Chuo-ku, Odori Nishi 3, Doshin Bldg. Odori-kan 8F). •Info: UHB Jigyo Kaihatsu-bu, ☎214-5242, <[http://uhb.jp/event/momotetsu\\_sapporo/](http://uhb.jp/event/momotetsu_sapporo/)>

## Olympic Museum

The newly renovated Olympic Museum (former Winter Sports Museum) reopened on Feb. 21. It is located at the foot of Okurayama Ski Jump Stadium and overlooking downtown Sapporo. It has great collection of memorabilia and documents related to the 1972 Sapporo Winter Olympics. It also allows visitors to experience winter sports such as ski jumping, bobsledding, and more through simulators. It is fun for both kids and adults. Adm.: ¥600 for sr. high and over, free for jr. high and under. Hours: 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. from Nov. to Apr. Address: Chuo-ku, Miyano-mori, 1274, ☎641-8585. Access: from Maruyama Koen Subway Sta. (Tozai Line), take JR Bus #14, get off at the Okurayama Kyogijo bus stop and walk 10 min.



## JLPT

**Mar. 29-  
Apr. 28**

The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) will take place on July 2 (Sun.) throughout Japan. You can apply via the Internet or by mail. The Application Guide (application form) is available in major bookstores for ¥500. Application period: Mar. 29 (Wed.)–Apr. 28 (Fri.). Test fee: ¥5,500. •Info: JLPT Application Center, ☎03-6686-2974, <<http://info.jees-jlpt.jp/>>

## Streetcar Fare Increase

**From Apr. 1**

Sapporo City has officially announced that the Shiden (streetcar) fares will be raised on Apr. 1 (Sat.), to ¥200 from ¥170 for adults, to ¥100 from 90 for elem. schoolers and younger, free for babies under age one. Commuter passes and the Dosanko Pass (one-day streetcar pass for weekends and holidays) will also go up. •Info: Sapporo City Call Center ☎222-4894

## Have Fun in the Snow

**Mar. 18**

The Sapporo Moiwa-yama Ski-jo Matsuri (Mt. Moiwa Ski Area Festival) will be held on Mar. 18 (Sat.) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy tubing, a treasure hunt, picking up oranges rolling on the ground, and more. Fee: free. Venue: Mt. Moiwa Ski Area North Slope (Minami-ku, Moiwa-shita 1991). Access: a 10-min. bus ride (special buses) from Makomanai Subway Sta. (Namboku Line), or a 20-min. drive from central Sapporo. Free parking lot for 450 cars. •Info: ☎581-0914

## Snow Candles

**Mar. 11**

At three parks in Sapporo, snow candles will be lit simultaneously at 5 p.m. on Mar. 11 (Sat.), the day the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred in 2011. Experience the peaceful warm candlelight in the snow. Venue: Sousei River Park (Chuo-ku, Minami 3, Nishi 1), Nishioka Park (Toyohira-ku, Nishioka 487), Mikaho Park (Higashi-ku, Kita 20, Higashi 4). •Info: NPO Koen Network, ☎090-8630-7737, <[koen\\_net\\_om@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:koen_net_om@yahoo.co.jp)>