

Site Visits on 19th of November: Human Development in Japan

Please review the preliminary choices below. Note that most choices include visits to more than one location.

(1) ADMINISTRATION • SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION • ADVANCED IT EDUCATION • HIDA FOLK VILLAGE

TAKAYAMA CITY HALL／BOARD OF TAKAYAMA EDUCATION／HIDA SPECIAL-NEEDS SCHOOL／
TAKAYAMA WEST HIGH SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN／HIDA FOLK VILLAGE HIDA-NO-SATO

Hida Special-needs School : Hida Special-needs School has two major objectives: “students with disabilities can receive the same level of education with that of able-bodied students”, “students become independent by overcoming various difficulties in their study and life”.

Takayama West High School : Takayama West High School is the sole incorporated senior high school in the Hida Region. The school offers students the nation’s best environment for studying and the most advanced information technology (IT) education within Gifu Prefecture.

Hida Folk Village Hida-no-Sato : Traditional lifestyle in the Hida Regions is on display under the seven different themes.

Well-reserved houses were reconstructed in the Village, and visitors can take a glimpse into a traditional life and various seasonal events observed by local people for ages.

(2) AGRICULTURE , FORESTRY , STOCK RAISING AND RIVER BASIN RESEARCH

FRUSIC (COINAGE BETWEEN FRUIT AND MUSIC)／ECO-FRIENDLY SPINACH CULTIVATION／
GIFU PREFECTURAL LIVESTOCK RESEARCH INSTITUTE／
GIFU UNIVERSITY RIVER BASIN RESEARCH CENTER “TAKAYAMA FIELD”

Frusic (coinage between fruit and music) : A variety of highly nutritious tropical fruits are being cultivated in Frusic with a use of heat coming from the Okuhida hot springs.

Eco-friendly Spinach Cultivation : Farmers cover greenhouses with insect-repellent nets blocking pests from damaging vegetables.

These special nets enable farmers to grow spinach with less use of agricultural chemicals.

Gifu Prefectural Livestock Research Institute : Pioneering “Traceability” experiments have been conducted with a use of electric tags in an aim to securing food safety and improving quality of meat. *Traceability is a coinage between “trace” and “ability.”

Gifu University River Basin Research Center “Takayama Field” : Gifu University River Basin Research Center was established in April 2002.

Its major objectives include: studying and analyzing diverse natural and scientific phenomena and human factors in plants, rivers and soils around basin areas stretching from water sources in mountains and forests, down to floodplains, agricultural fields and urban areas. The Research Center has a “Takayama Field” branch laboratory where researchers are studying carbon circulation in cold-district forests and agricultural fields by utilizing satellite remote sensing data gathering system.

(3) ADVANCED WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY, & RECYCLING, AND BIOMASS ELECTRICITY GENERATION

CLEAN PLAZA CHUNO／KAWABE BIOMASS ELECTRIC POWER STATION

Clean Plaza Chuno : Clean Plaza Chuno is one of the most advanced waste disposal facility with an annex of Recycle Plaza.

In Recycle Plaza, large-sized articles and recyclable resources are disposed at the newly-developed hyper temperature garbage melting furnace.

Kawabe Biomass Electric Power Station : Kawabe Biomass Electric Power Station uses wooden chip biomass to harness electricity.

The electricity is mainly used for manufacturing cardboard boxes.

(4) TRADITIONAL INDUSTRIES EXPERIENCES & MUSEUMS (GIFU-PREF.)

JAPANESE ARTISTIC PAPERS (MINO-WASHI NO SATO) MUSEUM (EXPERIENCE OF PAPERMAKING)／

GIFU PREFECTURE CUTLERY HALL／FEATHER MUSEUM／KNIFE MUSEUM

MINO-WASHI NO SATO Museum : MINO-WASHI NO SATO Museum introduces 1,300-year-old “Mino-Washi” Japanese paper making.

Visitors are welcome to make their own paper in this museum.

Gifu Prefecture Cutlery Hall : Approximately 2,000 metal ware manufactured in Seki including knives, scissors, nail clippers, etc. are for sale.

Feather Museum : Feather Museum introduces the history of Japanese razor making.

Approximately 500 items including traditional razors and razor-related items are on display by different themes.

Knife Museum : More than 1,500 rare knives manufactured in Japan, US, Europe and Southeast Asia are on display at the Canadian cabin-style museum.

The main features of this museum are the biggest and the smallest knives in the world.

(5) LOCAL SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIES (HIDA-TAKAYAMA)

HIDA HOT PEPPER STUDIO／HIDA FURUKAWA BREAD FACTORY SAKURA／

WAIDA MFG. CO., LTD.／HIDA SANGYO CO., LTD.

Hida Hot Pepper Studio : Hida Hot Pepper Studio was constructed in Takane Village (present Takayama City) as a third business sector in an aim to revitalize regional economy. The Studio produces “Umakara-Oh (delicious hot)” steak sauce.

The entire plant is located within a now-defunct old tunnel at the foot of 1,200m Mt. Ontake.

In the tunnel, both the temperature and the moisture are kept fixed all the year around, creating an ideal environment for sauce making.

Hida Furukawa Bread Factory Sakura : Breads are produced utilizing crystal clear river water “Norikura 100-year-old Water” which flows down

from Mt. Norikura. Breads are produced around the clock, and people can enjoy healthy, quality breads which are rich in natural yeast with reasonable prices.

WAIDA MFG.CO., LTD. : WAIDA MFG., CO., LTD. provides CNC (Computer Numerical Control) grinding machines for metal molding and cutting tool related enterprises. The company has succeeded in introducing NC (Numerical Control) system to its grinding machines (with robotic arms) for the first time in the world. The company is currently establishing a “Waida Brand” as one of the leading technology development-centered enterprise in Japan.

Hida Sangyo CO., Ltd. : Hida Sangyo CO., Ltd. is one of the best-known furniture manufacturing company in the Hida Region.

The company is also famous for its “woodpecker” logo and its operation started from the traditional curbed wooden furniture originated in the Hida Region.

(6) HAND-MADE FOOD PROCESSING

NOVEL CO.,LTD./MEIHO LADIES, MEIHO HAM/SAMPLE VILLAGE IWASAKI

Novel Co., Ltd. : Novel Co., Ltd. produces lactic beverage called “Novel” which contains rich nutrients.

Novel is made of clear water from Mt. Haku and locally produced milk.

The products are distributed to each household as healthy and very nutritious beverage.

Meiho Ladies, Maiho Ham : Meiho Ladies was established as a third business sector and its major operations are food processing and sales of agricultural produce. Beginning with 100% hand-made ketchup using locally produced tomatoes (called Meiho Tomato Ketchup), the company sells a variety of processed foods utilizing local agricultural products.

Both Meiho Tomato Ketchup and Meiho Ham are one of the most popular products of the Meiho Region.

Sample Village Iwasaki : Visitors can experience making their own wax food samples. Iwasaki Co., Ltd. wax food samples account for 70% share in the world’s wax food sample production. There are gift and sample exhibition corners in the workshop of Sample Village Iwasaki.

(7) ORGANIC FOODS PRODUCTION

SALAD COSMO/TOMISO CO.,LTD./HANANOKI CO.,LTD.

Salad Cosmo : Salad Cosmo Co., Ltd. started bean sprout cultivation in 1955. Since 1970s, it has been producing bean, radish and alfalfa sprouts, etc. with less use of agricultural chemicals and fertilizers.

Tomiso Co., Ltd. : Tomiso Co., Ltd. manufactures and sells fish sausage, crab-flavored fish-paste food, etc.

The company is recognized as an enterprise that employs 100% safe food production procedures.

Hananoki Co., Ltd. : Hananoki Co., Ltd. produces no-need-to wash rice which is already highly popular in restaurants and eateries for its convenience and reasonable prices. The rice needs little water for rinsing before cooking, and there is no cause for concern about water pollution.

(8) “ZAZEN” PRACTICE • HYGIENE • EMPLOYMENT FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSON

ZEN-NO JI TEMPLE/HEIWA MEDIC CO.,LTD./KIMURA METAL INDUSTRY CO.,LTD.

Zen-no ji Temple : In zazen, people sit straight and try to reach mental concentration.

Zasen is at the heart of Zen Buddhist practice, and its major objectives include: to calm the body and the mind, experience insight into the nature of existence and thereby gain enlightenment.

Zen-no Temple offers visitors an opportunity to experience zazen practice at a training hall.

Heiwa Medic Co., Ltd. : Heiwa Medic Co., Ltd. manufactures cotton swabs (main product), wet tissues, candy sticks and other sanitary and food items.

The company is also producing cosmetic and medical supplies, and its branch offices in Shanghai, China and Hanoi, Vietnam are implementing various innovative programs and projects.

Kimura Metal Industry Co., Ltd. : Kimura Metal Industry Co., Ltd employs people with disabilities in dismantling old PCs for recycling, helping employees to become independent. With CRS (Corporate Social Responsibility) in mind, Kimura Metal Industry employs one person with disabilities by dismantling 10 PCs per day.

(9) GENERIC MEDICINE • INTELLIGENT IT HOSPITAL • WELFARE SERVICES

TAIYO YAKUHIN CO.,LTD./GIFU UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/JURAKUEN(Special Nursery Home for The Aged)

Taiyo Yakuhin Co., Ltd. : Taiyo Yakuhin Co., Ltd. is one of the major generic medicine suppliers in Japan.

“Generic medicines” are manufactured and sold after their patent periods are over.

As investment for R & D for new medicines are not necessary for these generic medicines, they can be provided with affordable prices.

Gifu University Hospital : Gifu University Hospital is one of the leading IT-oriented university hospitals in the world.

The hospital is called a “Total Intelligent Hospital” equipped with a centrally controlled e-medical chart system connecting to each patients’ sick beds. The hospital also has the largest emergency treatment unit in Japan.

Jurakuen (Special Nursery Home for the Aged) : Jurakuen offers a variety of welfare services for the elderly. They are special care for the aged, support for the aged living at home, short-stay programs, group-home services (support for communal living for the people with dementia), daily service programs, etc. Jurakuen in Hida City offers people with real living conditions.

(10) SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY • D P F • MACHINERY

SANYO ELECTRIC CO.,LTD./IBIDEN CO.,LTD. /UTSUE SEIKI CO.,LTD.

Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd. : Houses with solar panels can reduce not only carbon dioxide emissions, but also utility charges.

Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd. is a pioneering enterprise in developing solar panels for housing, and is leading the world in R & D for solar batteries. “Solar Lab” located within the premises of Sanyo Electric in Hashima is a unique outdoor, experience-oriented science museum which introduces solar batteries under the theme of “light.”

Ibiden Co., LTD. : Ibiden Co., LTD. is contributing to the preservation of global environment through “waste zero emissions” programs, prevention of global warming and higher percentage of recycling as well as introduction and manufacturing of environmentally-friendly technologies and products. Ibiden’s main product DPF (diesel purifying filter) has been manufactured 10 million annually for exports mainly to Europe.

Utsue Seiki Co., Ltd. : Employees in Utsue Seiki Co., Ltd. are actively engaged in environmental conservation activities with a slogan, “Leave the beautiful planet to future generations.” Utsue Seiki Co., Ltd. is manufacturing various kinds of hydraulic equipment for Komatsu Ltd., one of the leading heavy machinery manufacturing company in Japan.

(11) AEROSPACE MUESUM • COMPREHENSIVE FACTORY • ROBOTS

KAKAMIGAHARA AEROSPACE SCIENCE MUSEUM/KAWASAKI HEAVY INDUSTRY LTD./WABOT HOUSE

Kakamigahara Aerospace Science Museum : Kakamigahara Aerospace Science Museum introduces mechanisms, operational systems, etc. of aircrafts and rockets. Visitors can observe various types of airplanes, helicopters, rockets, and can enjoy watching films and trying out various experimental equipments.

Kawasaki Heavy Industry Ltd. : Kawasaki Heavy Industry Ltd. is a “comprehensive factory” where research, development, manufacturing and repair work

are carried out for large and small wings for airplanes, fuselage and other aeronautic-related products.

Wabot House : In Wabot House, researchers of Waseda University are conducting various projects to promote co-existence between humans and robots, an ideal combination to deal with an aging society in Japan. Waseda University has succeeded in developing the world first humanoid robot called, “WABOT-1” in 1973, which became a driving force for robot research in the world.

(12) ADVANCED MACHINE TOOLS ・ CHILLED CAKES ・ SHOWA ERA VILLAGE

YAMAZAKI MAZAK CORPORATION／MONTEUR CO.,LTD.／JAPAN SHOWA ERA VILLAGE

Yamazaki Mazak Corporation : Yamazaki Mazak Corporation is one of the most advanced machine tool (including robots) manufacturing companies in the world.

In 1987, the total sale of Yamazaki Mazak’s machine tools was the highest in the world, and the company keeps ranking first in total sale volume to present.

Monteur Co., Ltd. : Monteur Co., Ltd. produces quality and tasty “chilled cake” with affordable prices. All of the cakes are made of locally produced ingredients, and are sold in almost all the convenient stores in Japan under the brand name, “small confectionary store.”

Japan Showa Era Village : Japan Showa Era Village is an experience-oriented theme park created to revive a lifestyle of a rural, mountainous area in Japan in the early Showa Period (1925-1989).

(13) FUTURIC AUTOMOBILES

TOYOTA MOTOR CO.,LTD.

Toyota Motor Co., Ltd. : Visitors can observe the famous Toyota’s “just in time” system, which was made possible through its unique human resource development system. There is a special corner in Toyota Hall which introduces Toyota’s 21st vision for environmental protection, safety and the-state-of-the art automobile-related technologies.