

Introduction

Hokkaido University has spent collecting, preserving, studying—and now, storing—around 4 million specimens and materials, since the time when it was still known as Sapporo Agricultural College established in 1876. Among these items are more than 10,000 precious specimens that serve as benchmarks for their respective species.

Since first opening its doors in the spring of 1999, The Hokkaido University Museum has communicated Hokkaido University's diverse investigative traditions, exhibiting and introducing the university's cutting-edge research through various original materials and imagery. The items held by the museum can speak to us of our past, and our future, but only when information about them is provided. We strive to become the type of museum that can help visitors expand their imaginations. As such, visitors are encouraged to lean in close and “listen” to each item's narrative, as it were. The museum carries out unique, future-focused educational activities through such initiatives as the Museum-Meister Course to promote Hokkaido University's aim of all-round education, and the Parataxonomist Training Program for semi-professional experts on specimens and materials. Furthermore, enthusiastic volunteers help sort specimens and provide explanations for exhibits. The museum's goal is to act as an open-style hub for local citizens, in addition to students and staff, where items, narratives and people can come together.

As part of its renovation in July 2016, the museum set up new exhibitions introducing Hokkaido University's 12 schools and the Museum Laboratory, the latter spotlighting the museum's “backyard,” where visitors can observe behind-the-scenes activities normally conducted away from the public eye. We hope our multipurpose space, café and shop will help create an even more friendly environment for local citizens.



Branch

Fisheries Science Center

The Fisheries Science Center is a branch of the Hokkaido University Museum located on the Hakodate Campus. In 2024, it was relocated to the third floor of the newly established "Fisheries Science Library and Museum Complex." Outdoors on the first floor, a nearly complete 14-meter-long skeleton of a Bryde's whale is on display. The permanent and storage-based exhibition rooms mainly feature exhibits related to fisheries science. The adjacent "Aquatic Biological Specimen House" (not open to the public) houses 250,000 fish specimens collected from aquatic environments around the world.

Facility related to The Hokkaido University Museum

Sapporo Agricultural College Model Dairy Farm

This facility represents a dairy farmer's experimental and model farm built in 1877. Its construction was based on the concept of Vice-Principal Dr. W.S. Clark to create a modernistic innovative base for practicing livestock-based agriculture by an unexperienced farmer migrated to Hokkaido. As a highly valuable source of knowledge about the dairy farm management of those days, the model farm has been designated as a National Important Cultural Property.



Access to the Museum

10-minute-walk from North Exit of JR Sapporo station.

There is no parking area around the museum.

Please use public transportation, such as bus and subway, when you visit the museum.

Opening Hours

10:00-17:00

Closed on Mondays and year-end holidays.

(December 28-January 4)

When a national holiday falls on a Monday, the museum will open as usual, but close the following weekday.

※There will be exceptions to this schedule because of events at the University

Admission Free

The Hokkaido University Museum

Kita 10, Nishi 8, Kita-ku, Sapporo-shi, Hokkaido,

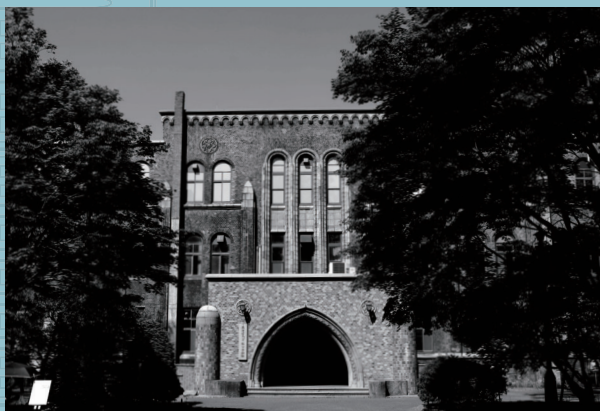
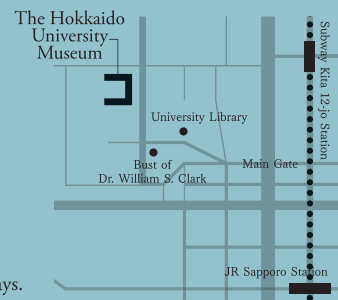
060-0810, Japan

Phone: +81-(0)11-706-2658

Fax: +81-(0)11-706-4029

URL: <https://www.museum.hokudai.ac.jp/>

E-mail: museum-jimu@museum.hokudai.ac.jp



THE HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

Information





History of Hokkaido University (1F)

The History of Hokkaido University casts an eye over the university's past since its establishment as Sapporo Agricultural College. It also introduces the spirit of practical learning that has endured since its founding. A commemorative exhibition room showcases the research of Emeritus Professor Akira Suzuki, who won The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2010, and Specially Appointed Professor Benjamin List, who also won the prize in 2021.



Cutting-edge HU -Spirit of Inquiry (2F)

Spirit of Inquiry introduces some of the distinctive research activities carried out by Hokkaido University's various Research Centers and Shared Educational Facilities.

Interactive Zone (2F)

The aim of the Interactive Zone is to have visitors employ all five senses to enjoy the object and specimens.



Intellectual Hub (1F)

Many people are involved in the running of The Hokkaido University Museum, including volunteers who sort specimens and offer explanations for exhibitions, and HU students who are enrolled in the "Museum-Meister" course. We provide opportunities for new encounters by offering seminars and lectures for local citizens, and by operating a 4D theater, science café, student-planned workshops and other events. Also available are a museum shop offering original goods, and a relaxing café.

Cutting-edge HU -New Challenges (1F)

Hokkaido University continually rises to new challenges to meet the ever-changing demands of society. Here we introduce the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability and Arctic Research Center, which promote sustainable activities for building a sustainable society from the university's campus to the Arctic region.



Cutting-edge HU -Discipline Areas (1F, 2F)

Hokkaido University is a comprehensive university with 12 undergraduate schools: Faculty of Letters, School of Education, School of Law, School of Economics and Business Administration, School of Science, School of Medicine, School of Dental Medicine, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacy, School of Engineering, School of Agriculture, School of Veterinary Medicine, and School of Fisheries Sciences. "Discipline Areas" examines the goals behind the education, curricula, student life, history and top-level research of each undergraduate school.

Storehouse Treasures (3F)

The section displays a wide range of specimens and other materials used for research (or as objects of research, per se) in the fields of geology, taxonomy, archaeology, history of science and technology, and medical science. By directly experiencing the wonder of such specimens/materials as fossils, ores, minerals, rocks, plants, insects and moulages (wax molds that simulate skin diseases) you can learn all about our world—past and present.



Museum Laboratory (1F)

In the museum's "backyard," scientists conduct research in their respective areas, while volunteers help sort materials. Visitors will have the chance to observe the workings of laboratories that deal with paleobiology, archaeology, cosmochemistry, and teaching-material development.



Floor Information



- ①History of Hokkaido University
Guide to HU/ Guiding Spirits, Starting with Liberalism, The Undying Spirit of Sapporo Agricultural College, The Spirit of Practical Science, Lofty Ambition: A Timeline
- ②Hall (Exchange of Intellect)
- ③Cutting-edge HU–New Challenges
Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability, Arctic Research Center
- ④Cutting-edge HU–Discipline Areas (1)
School of Medicine, School of Dental Medicine, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacy, School of Humanities and Human Sciences, School of Science, School of Engineering
- ⑤Museum Laboratory
Archaeology Lab, Teaching Material Development Lab, Cosmochemistry Lab, Fossil Lab
- ⑥Intellectual Hub
Seminar Room, Lounge, Museum Shop, Café
- ⑦Cutting-edge HU–Discipline Areas (2)
School of Fisheries Sciences, School of Agriculture, School of Veterinary Medicine, School of Law, School of Economics and Business Administration, School of Education
- ⑧Cutting-edge HU–Spirit of Inquiry
Center for Environmental and Health Sciences, Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere, Institute of Seismology and Volcanology, Center for Ainu and Indigenous Studies, Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Institute for the Promotion of Business-Regional Collaboration, The Hokkaido University Museum
- ⑨Interactive Zone
- ⑩Storehouse Treasures
Archaeology, Medicine, Biology, Paleobiology, Mineralogy and Petrology, History of Science and Technology

※Special Exhibitio is held in summer.

Exhibition Area Elevator Toilet