Access & Information

If you use a car.
Kan-Etsu Expressway
Metropolitan Intercity Expressway
Osawa JCT
Tohoku Expressway
Fusunagashima JCT

If you use a train.
Ikebukuro
Takadanobaba
Han-nou
Yokohama

Tokorozawa City Area

Tokorozawa City, Saitama Prefecture

Toko-ron, an image mascot of Tokorozawa City
TEL.04-2998-9155 (Direct line)
http://www.city.tokorozawa.saitama.jp
facebook: Latest information of Tokorozawa is uploaded.
URL: http://www.facebook.com/tokorozawashisyougyoukanouka
Twitter: Latest information of Toko-ron is twittered.
twitter@tokoron1056

March 2016
Information of prices, etc. listed in this guidebook is as of March 2016. It may change later.
Tokorozawa City is located in the southern end of Saitama Prefecture, an attractive city near the heart of the big city, 30 minutes from Tokyo and 70 minutes from Yokohama. The city has many stories attracting visitors such as a story about aviation as the birthplace of aviation and a story of rich nature with "the Forest of TOTORO." The five stories which we have strictly chosen from among many stories will take you to an attractive city of Tokorozawa.

Which story shall we read today?

Toko-ron, an image character of Tokorozawa City was born as a memorial event in 2010 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the founding of Tokorozawa City and was chosen as the mascot by inviting applications from the public. Adding an image of a propelling airplane just like a city of the birthplace of aviation to the "Skylark," our city bird, we have created a mascot which will fly to the future and will be loved by and be friendly with everybody.
Story 1

Men who challenged to fly in the sky high above us

The birthplace of aviation

“We want to fly in the sky!”

Men who had the same idea came to Tokorozawa and the first airfield of Japan was built and the Henri Farman aircraft flew in the sky. The historical development of aviation met sadness and difficult problems from time to time. You can see many evidences in various places of Tokorozawa where men challenged to fly without giving up dreams.

Tokorozawa Aviation Memorial Park

This park was made at the old Tokorozawa airfield which had succeeded in flying an airplane for the first time in Japan. In addition to “C-46 middle class carrier” used by the Air Self-Defense Force, you can enjoy kids’ ground, dog runs, outdoor stage, etc. within the park all the year around.

DATA

Namiki 1-3, Tokorozawa City 04-2998-4388
580 cars can park there (Free for two hours).

Tokorozawa Aviation Museum

This museum has materials on the history of aviation and models of airplanes. If you fly an airplane by flight simulator, you may feel as if you were a pilot. The first national military plane named “Association Build No.1” designed by the Tokorozawa Airfield is demonstrated in the lobby.

DATA

Within Tokorozawa Aviation Memorial Park, Namiki 1-13 Tokorozawa City 04-2996-2225
10:00-16:00 Closed : every Monday (but open when it’s a national holiday) and new year’s holidays

Kōkū-kōen Station

As soon as you get out of the station, you will be greeted by “YS-11 carrier,” the first national aircraft which was developed and manufactured by Japan for the first time after the war.

DATA

Within Tokorozawa Aviation Memorial Park, Namiki 1-13 Tokorozawa City 04-2991-4310
10:00-16:00 Closed : every Monday (but open when it’s a national holiday) and new year’s holidays

Tea Room Saishotei

This is a team room located in the Aviation Museum. How about enjoying a tea time by powdered tea of the Sayama Tea while watching a beautiful Japanese garden.

DATA

Within Tokorozawa Aviation Memorial Park, Namiki 1-13, Tokorozawa City 04-2991-4310 10:00-16:00 Closed : every Monday (but open when it’s a national holiday) and new year’s holidays
Go to the forests where you may see TOTORO

"The air is fresh!"
One of the attractions about Tokorozawa is nature as it is though it is near the big city of Tokyo. If you want to feel nature, the forests always wait for you. Going for a walk in the forests refreshes you both in mind and body.

Lake Sayama

This is an artificial lake which provides Tokyo with water. With a thickly wooded area along the lake, you can enjoy beautiful scenery from season to season. On a good day, you may see Mt. Fuji across the lake.

Sayama Hill Flora & Fauna Interaction Center

This is the central facility which serves as the center of walking. You can deepen your understanding while you learn nature on Sayama Hill. Within the facility, there are a planning and exhibition room, an observation balcony and a lecture room. Outside, a charcoal kiln is installed. You can get a free walking map there. Be sure to visit this place to get information on Forests of TOTORO and so on.

Mt. Arahata Fuji

This is one of the largest artificial Fuji mountains built up by spending 15 years. From the top of the mountain, you can see the peaks of Mt. Chichibu, high-rise buildings of Tokyo and Tokyo Sky Tree including the actual Mt. Fuji.

Mt. Arahata Fuji Pond Bodaigi

Originally, the pond was used for agriculture. Thanks to recovery activities by local people, the scenery of the beautiful natural woodland is restored and the pond serves as an oasis where various living creatures such as wild birds and insects gather.

Lake Sayama

Sayama Hill Flora & Fauna Interaction Center

Forests of TOTORO

Sayama Hill is the stage of “Tonari no TOTORO (Neighbor TOTORO),” a movie by Director Hayao Miyazaki. Forests of TOTORO which are located here and there on the hill are owned by “Totoro no Furusato Foundation” established to preserve nature and cultural properties. The forests are bought by contributions and managed by volunteers. At present, there are from No.1 place to No.37 place (as of February 2016).

Alpine Road (Wild bird observation road)

This is a promenade on the bank in the walking course of Sayama Hill. This is a strange and thick grass road under which a water pipe runs. This road also serves as a wild bird observation road.

Pond Bodaigi

DATA

Arahata 782, Tokorozawa City 04-2939-9412 (not available 09:00-17:00 Closed: Monday/But open on national holidays and transferred national holidays) and next day of national holidays/but open when it is Saturday or Sunday or a national holiday/new year’s holidays.

Go to the forests where you may see TOTORO

Rich nature with precious animals and plants

“"The air is fresh!”
One of the attractions about Tokorozawa is nature as it is though it is near the big city of Tokyo. If you want to feel nature, the forests always wait for you. Going for a walk in the forests refreshes you both in mind and body.
Tokorozawa is full of sports where you can play. Go out to the place which attract you.

Tokorozawa Seibu Lions

Tokorozawa City is the home ground of “Tokorozawa Seibu Lions.” They aim to be a friendly and district-rooted team which is loved by fans and shares excitement with fans.

NBA Ballet Group

This is a ballet group which was formed in 1993 and has been operated by an NPO since 2001. Throughout the year, the group conducts Japan’s top level performance and sponsors competitions to train human resources who play important roles in the future ballet world. You can enjoy a professional ballet.

Tokorozawa Civic Cultural Centre “Muse”

This is a complex cultural facility with one of the nation’s largest pipe organs made in Austria. The facility consists of three halls (large, middle and small type) where various events such as concert, drama, variety show and exhibition are planned and give excitement of art to people.

Sayama Ski Slope

The indoor ski slope next to Seibu Dome is open from the end of October to the beginning of April. You can always enjoy 300 meter-long course covered with artificial snow in a good condition. They provide you with all-night operation, lady days and such events. "M u s e "

Sports, culture & amusement

“We are strongly moved!”

Tokorozawa is the hometown of two professional sports, baseball and basketball. In addition to sport watching facilities, we have good facilities for culture/art and amusements. Tokorozawa is full of a variety of excitements. Enjoy a great and satisfactory day with us in Tokorozawa.

Saitama Broncos

With Tokorozawa City, as the core, this is a professional basketball team performing brilliantly within and outside Saitama Prefecture. The mascot character is Rizuho Broncos. With Citizen Gymnasium of Tokorozawa City as the main ground, the team has been having hot games at various places. Sightseeing Ambassador of Tokorozawa City.

Seibu Prince Dome

Seibu Prince Dome is a bright and open stadium without walls around it in consideration of the nature of Sayama Hill.

JAY’S GARDEN

We have entrusted the Sightseeing Ambassador to them since 2015. This is a band group formed in Tokorozawa. They sing the theme song of Toku Ron “toko toko Toku Ron!” They connect Tokorozawa with people through music.

In order to improve the image of the city and to promote sightseeing by introducing the fascinating points of Tokorozawa City within and outside the city, we entrusted the Sightseeing Ambassador to well-known people or teams.

Saitama Broncos

Kasuga Sightseeing Ambassador: We have entrusted the Sightseeing Ambassador to Mr. Toshiaki Kasuga of the comedian duo Audrey since 2013. This is his trademark. He has been implementing PR of Tokorozawa through the media. Also popular at the elementary school, from which he graduated.

Toshiaki Kasuga

We have entrusted the Sightseeing Ambassador to them since 2015. This is a band group formed in Tokorozawa. They sing the theme song of Toku Ron “toko toko Toku Ron!”

JAY’S GARDEN

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Tokorozawa Seibu Lions

Tokorozawa City is the home ground of “Tokorozawa Seibu Lions.” They aim to be a friendly and district-rooted team which is loved by fans and shares excitement with fans.
Side story Delicious events

“Made in TOKOROZAWA”

Tokorozawa has its special gourmet items and various excellent brands of products. The city has sightseeing farms where you can enjoy a lot of tastes of the season by season. Go home with good memories after you see and enjoy the taste and skills which the local people are proud of.

Taste and skills which Tokorozawa people (Tokorokko) are proud of
Gourmet, brand and culture

**Side story Delicious events**

**Handmade noodle**
Wheat has been grown in the Tokorozawa area since ancient times and handmade noodle has been eaten. How to eat Tokorozawa noodle is mainly to eat hot soup noodles to dip noodle in the soy sauce-based soup with good broth.

**Sayama Tea**
It is reputed: “The color of tea is the best in Shizuoka, the pleasant smell of tea is the best in Uji but the taste of tea is the best in Sayama.” The city has shops where you can see tea gardens and try Sayama Tea.

**Grape hunting**
The season is from the beginning of August to the end of September. You can eat various kinds of grapes such as Berry A, large purple-black grape, Memorisu, and Campbell.

**Strawberry hunting**
The season is from the beginning of May to the end of May. Sweet strawberry which you just picked is special. It is a good souvenir for a parent-child group or even for children to get blueberry. You can eat it as it is, freeze it or make blueberry jam.

**Pear hunting**
The season is from the middle of August to the end of September. Fresh and juicy pears are good for dessert.

**Japanese plum hunting**
The season is from the middle of July to the end of August. Sweet and sour Japanese plum hunting is popular for the making memories of summer holidays. Fresh ones are good but they will be bitter after the interval of one or two days.

**Bamboo shoot hunting**
The season is from the beginning of April to the beginning of May. Fresh bamboo shoot is good when it is boiled or toasted! How about eating rice skewer. The smell of soy sauce for dessert.

**Chestnut gathering**
The season is from the beginning of September to the beginning of October. Chestnut is the representative of autumn taste. There are many kinds of eating methods such as chestnut rice, chestnut mixed cold, and chestnut mixture of boiled and roasted chestnut.

**Blueberry hunting**
The season is from the beginning of July to the end of July. Blueberry is often used in the soy sauce-based soup with good broth.

**Toastied dumpling**
This dumpling is a specialty of Tokorozawa. How to make it: Knead rice flour by hot water and make a dough, bake the dough after pasting soy sauce on the steamed ball on a bamboo skewer. The smell of soy sauce is excellent and you can enjoy traditional simple taste.

**Fruit hunting**
The city has various sightseeing farms and you can enjoy fruit hunting experience almost all the year round. Spend a good day while you enjoy the taste of the season by delicious and sweet fruit hunting!

Telephone 04-2998-9155 (Tokorozawa Sightseeing Association)

Tokorozawa Town-Building Shop (Machizo)

In order to activate the central part of towns in Tokorozawa, the shop holds a variety of events and activities together with shops. Within the shop, there is a permanent exhibition of artists who mainly work in Tokorozawa. The shop warehouse which houses Machizo has a precious value as a building which was constructed at the end of the Edo Period.

DATA
Motomachi 21-18 04-2928-1453
10:00-18:00 Closed: Every Thursday

**Nagayamon Noh Mask Museum**
About 20 masks by Gensei Fukuyama, a modern noh mask author, are always exhibited. On the opening day, noh mask making class is held and you can experience a traditional noh mask making process.

DATA
Nishi Arai 7-11, Tokorozawa City 04-2995-9899
11:00-17:00 Closed 1st and 3rd Saturday and Sunday

Hina Doll
Hina doll has been made in Tokorozawa since the Edo Period. You can see many special shops in the city.

**Citizen Culture Fair**
In commemoration of Tokorozawa, the birthplace of aviation, events are held on first Saturday and Sunday of April every year in order to exchange culture of citizens. Local dance festivals are also held.

**Tokorozawa Festival**
This is an event held mainly by citizens at Tokorozawa Aviation Memorial Park. In addition to product-testing and drinking booth sponsored by Tokorozawa Sightseeing Association, there are many shops around the park and various events such as concerts and street performances are held.
“Let’s visit old temples.”

One of the attractions of Tokorozawa City is that the city is dotted with traditional shrines and temples. Traditional festivals are held at various places even now. In addition, many places are famous for flowers. How about looking for your richness by temple/shrine visit and flower viewing.

**Konjyoin (Yamaguchi Kannon)**

MAP B-3

This is a temple of Shingonshu which is said to have been founded by Kobo Daishi. The temple is famous for votive horse tablets, a dragon of Indian ink drawing all over the ceiling and Kannon with thousand hands, etc. In addition, you can see other precious cultural properties. In spring of 2017, Secret Buddha will be exhibited for the first time in 33 years.

**DATA**
Kami-Yamaguchi 2003, Tokorozawa City
04-2922-4258 @Available

**Tamonin**

MAP D-1

The principal image is the golden Bishamonten and it is told that it is the patron saint of Shingen Takeda. In spring, 300 peonies decorate the grounds. On May 1 every year, “Tiger Festival” is held to pray to the tiger who is the incarnation of Bishamonten.

**DATA**
Nakatomi 1501, Tokorozawa City
04-2942-3919 @Available

**Shiroyama Jinjya(Shrine) / Takinojyoshi Koen(Park)**

MAP F-2

Shiroyama Jinjya(Shrine) is located within Castle Ruin Park of “Taki no ji(Castle of Waterfall)” which is said to be the castle of Ujiteru Hojyo. Within the park, cherry blossoms are beautiful in addition to fawn lilies. In addition, on the third Sunday of May every year, “Wartime Waterfall Castle Festival” is held, and visitors are pleased to see a warrior parade and a mock fighting.

**DATA**
Shiro 537, Tokorozawa City
04-2998-9155 @Available within the park

**Konsenji Temple**

MAP A-2

The original building can be traced back as far as the Heian Period. Weeping cherry trees which are about 140 years old are well-known and tree figures are beautiful.

**DATA**
Honnouchi 343, Tokorozawa City
04-2948-1915 @Available

**Tokorosawa Shinmeisha**

MAP C-2

This is the village shrine of Old Tokorozawa Town. The temple is famous for the Rake Fair (1-3 January) which is held earliest in Japan and memorial service for dolls (the first Sunday of June).

**DATA**
Miyamoto-cho 1-2-4, Tokorozawa City
04-2922-3919 @Available (There is a city parking lot near the temple.)

**Recommended flower viewing spots**

**Lily Garden**

MAP B-3

**DATA**
From the beginning of June to the end of July
Kami-Yamaguchi 2007, Tokorozawa City
04-2922-3919 @Available

**Sunflower Field (Mikajima)**

MAP A-2

**DATA**
From the beginning to the end of August
Mikajima 4-2163-1, Tokorozawa City
04-2998-9155 @Available

**Azumagawa River Cherry Line**

MAP E-2

**DATA**
Along Azumagawa River from Nishiarai-cho to Matsugo of Tokorozawa City
04-2948-1915 @Available

**Sunagawabori Weeping Cherry Tree**

MAP B-2

**DATA**
Along Sunagawabori from Kotesashi-cho of Tokorozawa City
04-2998-9155 @Available
There are more interesting things to tell you! A list of guide maps

Excursion Navigator
This is a convenient map covering all the area of the city, especially the central district. (TOKORAZA Walking Navigator is a practical and useful map full of information such as noted places and the season of fruits and flowers of Tokorozawa City. We have prepared Excursion Navigator in English. (It was issued in January 2015.)

Tokorozawa Walking Navigator
There are four areas in the East, West, Central and North. The navigator decides a theme of two courses by area and introduces you a recommended walking course from the station. (It was issued in January 2015.)

Guide Map of Tokorozawa Cultural Heritage
This is a map describing a list of the designated cultural properties, etc. in Tokorozawa City and their explanations.

Music Town Map
By Cultural and Arts Promotion Section
(issued in April 2015)
This is a map to introduce you the places where you can “listen to” and “perform” music with town building of music as a theme.

Greemery Contact Map
By Nature Promotion Section
(issued in March 2015)
This is a map to introduce you the places where you can feel relief and comfort in the natural environments of Tokorozawa City full of greenery.

Tokorozawa Fine Article Museum
By Cultural and Arts Promotion Section
(issued in February 2015)
This is a map, covering good products and recommended articles such as tea, sake, Japanese cakes and craft products within Tokorozawa City.

Tokorozawa Sightseeing Farm Map
By Tokorozawa Sightseeing Association(issued in August 2015)
This is a map introducing places to visit where they can enjoy taste hunting in Tokorozawa City all the year round.