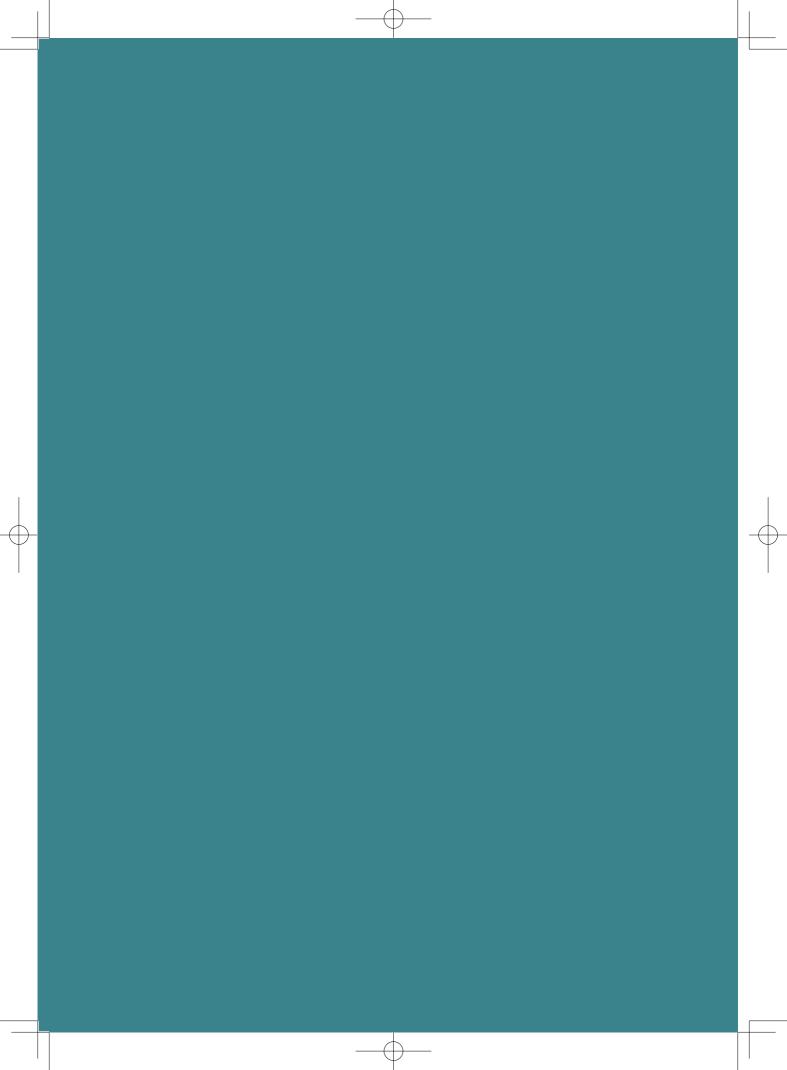
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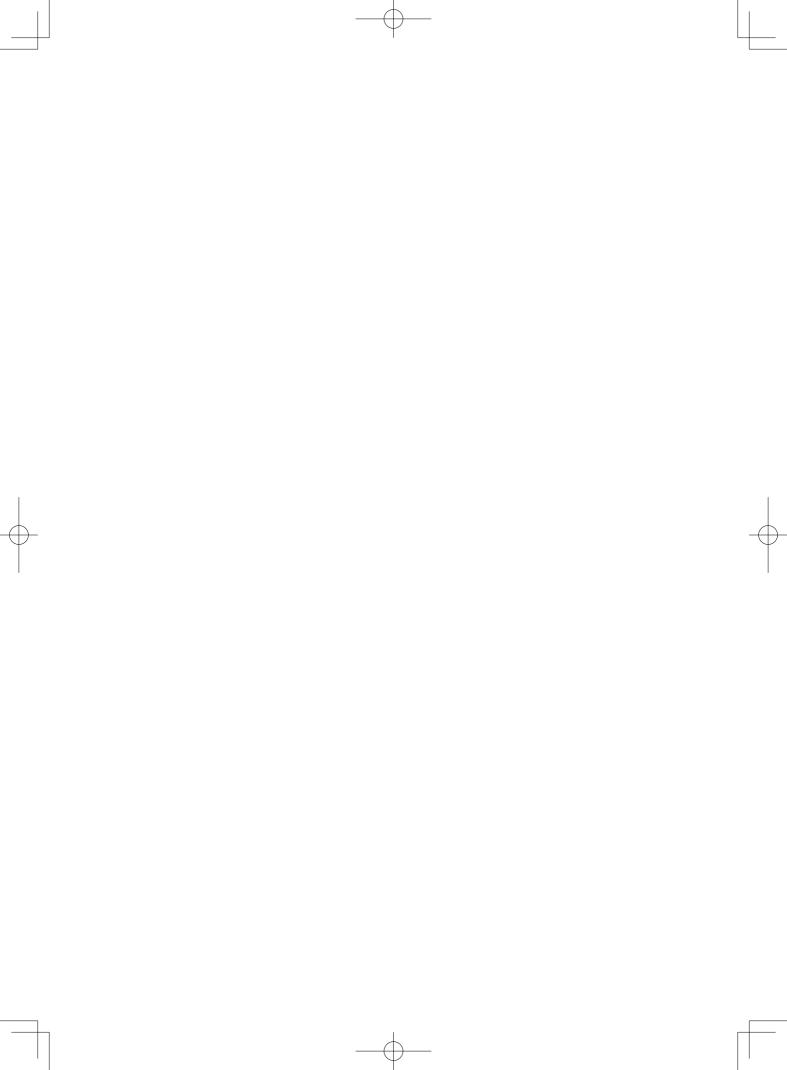
BEYOND ORDINARY ITINERARIES

The Chichibu Area in Saitama Prefecture



Beyond Ordinary Itineraries

The Chichibu Area in Saitama Prefecture

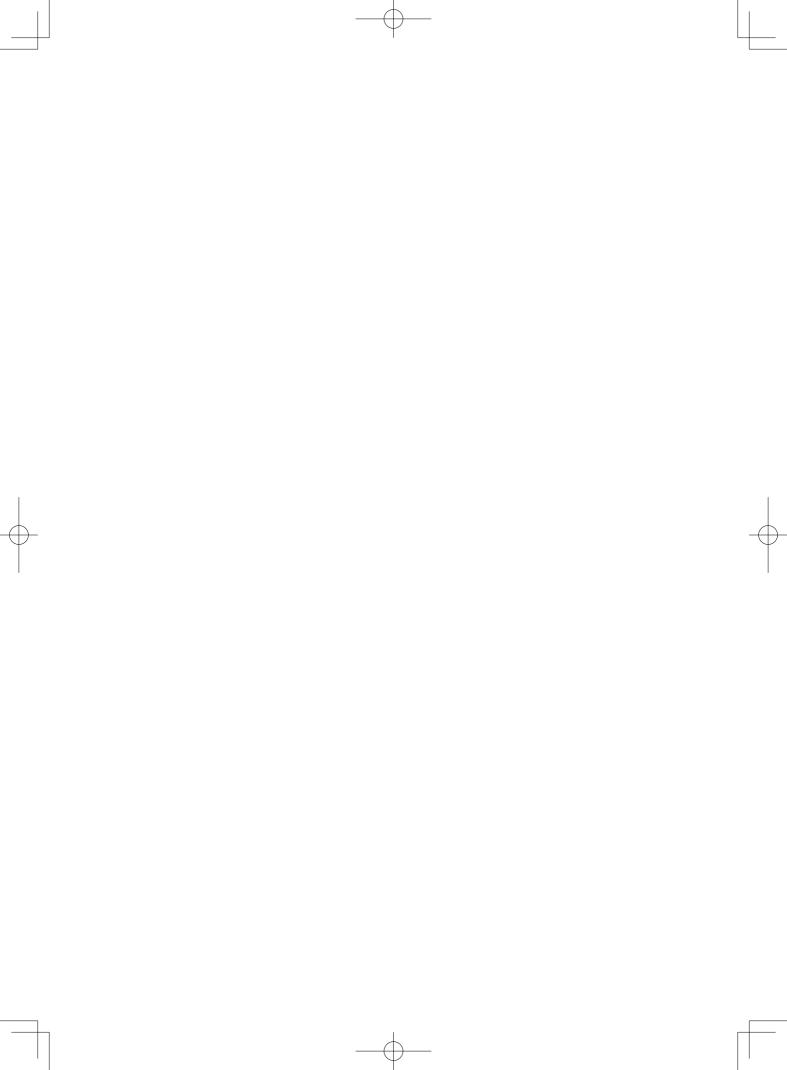


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The Chichibu Area in Saitama Prefecture



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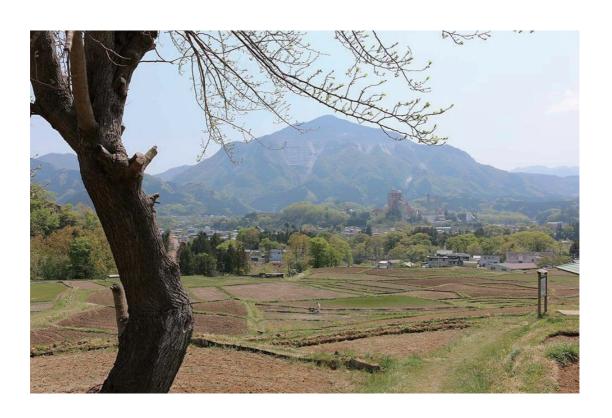
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One Day Trip

to the Chichibu Area







新たなる 伝統への礎

ネオ・トラディショナルな町 「ちちぶ」

トラディション=伝統とは、広辞苑によると、「ある民族や社会・団体が長い歴史を通じて培い、伝えてきた信仰・風習・制度・思想・学問・芸術など」を指す。伝統は、長い歴史を通じて培われるのが常であるが、そこには必ず出発点があり、その時点では『新たな挑戦』であったはずである。長い歴史を持つ、ここ「ちちぶ」でも、その伝統の踏襲と新たな伝統<ネオ・トラディション>となるべく生まれている『新たな挑戦』がある。

「あ、秩父があった。」

「行こう。」と、きっぱり断言している西の都と比較すると、やや控えめなキャッチコピーがつけられている。「ちちぶ」と言えば、狼を守り神とし、毎月1日に配布される特別な『氣守り』で人気の三峯神社や、開国後の日本に来日したナウマン博士によってその地層の特殊性が明らかにされた岩畳と急流下りで人気の高い長瀞、そして40万株以上の芝桜がパッチワークのように咲き誇る羊山公園の芝桜の丘が有名である。しかし、意外にも、「ちちぶ」は、日本の歴史を太古の昔から支えていた地域であり、その歴史は紀元前にまで遡る。縄文時代以前から人が生活をしていたと言われ、また、東国では最も初期の段階に知知夫彦命という国造が派遣された武蔵国の原点でもある。平安時代には馬の産地であり、秩父の馬は天皇に献上されるとともに、当時の日本の輸送の一部を支えていた。そして、馬の飼育や管理に携わっていた人々はやがて武士の始祖となり、武蔵国から多くの武士が地頭として全国各地に派遣され、武士の国「日本」の基盤が作られていった。

「ちちぶ」の町を歩いている時、ふと目線を上げると見えるのが武 甲山。秩父盆地を囲むようにそびえる秩父連山からは少し離れた独 立峰の雄雄しさでとても目を引く。高さは比べ物にはならないが、 「ちちぶ」においては富士山のような山だ。

事実、人々は朝起きるとまず武甲山に手を合わせていたという聖なる山でもある。先ごろユネスコ無形文化遺産に登録が決まった、毎年12月3日を中心に行われる秩父夜祭も、秩父神社が祀る女神である妙見菩薩と、武甲山に棲む男神の年に一度のデートが由縁であるとも言われている。この「ちちぶ」を守る武甲山の姿が印象的なのは、その山肌が削られていることでもある。武甲山は日本屈指の

Chichibu, the Neo-Traditional Area

良質な石灰岩の山で、大正時代に大規模な石灰採掘が始まった。採掘した石灰を運ぶべく鉄道もひかれ、武甲山は「ちちぶ」を支える 基幹産業を生み出した。ひいては、日本の近代化、そして戦後の東京のインフラの整備を支えたとも言えるのである。

日本という国が始まって以来の有史の中で、『日本のバックボーン』の一つとしてあり続けた「ちちぶ」。そんな、奥が深い「ちちぶ」の、まだまだ掘り尽くされていない魅力を発見するべく、我々は西武鉄道レッドアロー号に乗った。

No one would deny that Japan is a country of tradition with beliefs, principles, and cultural events that have long histories. If you contemplate their origins, however, it is important to note that all the things now known as "traditions" were once new ideas. We would like to introduce you some interesting new enterprises creating a buzz in the Chichibu area, a traditional area with a long history, which are slowly gaining traction as new traditions, or adding a new take on pre-existing ones. If you want to witness cultural creation at work, now is the time to visit the Chichibu area.

There are some "musts" which you have to include in your itinerary if you visit the Chichibu area for the first time. The Chichibu shrine located in the center of Chichibu city is famous for its historical night festival on December 2nd and 3rd, which was included in the list of UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Mitsu mine shrine located on the mountain's top, about one and a half hours from Chichibu station by bus, is one of the most famous shrines in Japan which worship wolves. Nagatoro, on the other hand, is a picturesque place and the birthplace of geology in Japan. It is famous for its landscape of ancient layered rocks arranged in a formation referred to as "tatami mats," which remind us of mille feuille. The Chichibu area is a well-known tourist site near Tokyo among Japanese people. But only a few know its history. The beginning of Chichibu dates back to Paleolithic period (before 14,000 BC) and is said to be one of the oldest provinces in Eastern Japan. It was governed by a regional administrator sent from Yamato Court (BC 87), who is believed to have introduced the technique

of silk weaving to the area. Through the 8th to 12th century, when aristocrats and the imperial family in Kyoto ruled Japan, horses for transport were raised in this zone. Later, those horse keepers became samurai, who ruled Japan from the 12th century. Thus, the Chichibu area can be said to be also the birthplace of samurai.

When you walk in the Chichibu area, your eyes will catch a mountain whose surface is scraped in some places. It is Mt. Buko which has protected the people of the Chichibu area both religiously and substantially. It has been regarded as a sacred mountain and there is a local tradition to fold ones hands towards in worship upon waking in the morning. The night festival of the Chichibu shrine is also related to this mountain. One of the legendary meanings of this festival is a rendevous of the goddess Myoken, the goddess of the North Star, worshipped in the Chichibu shrine, and the god of

Chichibu, the Neo-Traditional Area

Mt. Buko. Since the modernization of Japan, which started in the 19th century, limestone in Mt. Buko has been mined in large volumes, which became the key industry of Chichibu area. The

railroad was constructed in order to transport this limestone as well as cement. It can be said that the modernization of Japan and the infrastructure of Tokyo after the World War II was not be able to be developed without the sacrifice of Mt. Buko and the locals of the Chichibu area.

Chichibu is the area that has played an important role for Japan from the very beginning. Our excursion to find hidden treasures and neo-traditions in the Chichibu area started with Red Arrow Limited Express of Seibu Railway.



1 | 西武鉄道 レッドアロー号

The Red Arrow Limited Express of Seibu Railway connects Chichibu and Tokyo (from Ikebukuro station) only in 80 minutes. In the train, which is kept very neat and clean, the trip to Chichibu is easy and cozy. In 2016, Seibu Railway started a new service called "The Seibu Traveling Restaurant - fifty-two seats of happiness" on the Red Arrow Limited Express, which means that the train entirely consists of dining cars. You can spend the travel time eating the gorgeous dishes prepared $% \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) =\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right$ with local ingredients. Also Chichibu station is now preparing for the "molt". In the Spring of 2017 a brand new station building with hot spring bathing facilities will open.



Beyond Ordinary Itineraries

The Chichibu Area in Saitama Prefecture

日本の魅力 発見プロジェクト 埼玉県 秩父地域

Chapter 1

A Great Attempt to Make a New Tradition in the Chichibu Area

"Venture Whisky, Ichiro's Malt"

text by *Rei Saionji* photographs by *Hide Urabe*



新たなる 伝統への礎

1,2

ベンチャーウイスキー 秩父蒸溜所で 時を重ねるウイスキーの原酒 Venture Whisky in Chichibu distillery

3

株式会社ベンチャーウイスキー 社長 肥土伊知郎(あくと いちろう)さん Mr. Ichiro Akuto, the founder of Venture Whisky and the blender of Ichiro's Malt 武甲山からの豊富な伏流水に恵まれる「ちちぶ」には、日本酒の蔵元が3軒ある。ワイナリーも2軒あるが、驚くべきことに「ちちぶ」にはウイスキー蒸溜所がある。西武秩父駅から北に20分ほど車を走らせた所にあるのが、ベンチャーウイスキー蒸溜所。遠くに秩父連峰を望む高台に建てられた蒸溜所は、かつて見たことのある大手の蒸溜所と比較するととても小さく、ヨーロッパの高地にあるチーズ工房を髣髴とさせる建物であった。

正社員 13人という小規模で活動するベンチャーウイスキーの蒸溜所の 1年の生産量は約9万リットル。これは、スコットランドの中規模の蒸溜所であれば、2~3週間、大手の最新式の蒸溜所であれば、たった2~3日で造れる量である。それ故、現在ベンチャーウイスキーでは、一般の観光見学を受け付けることができないが、今回は特別に、ベンチャーウイスキーを立ち上げたイチローこと肥土のようにある。



Beyond Ordinary Itineraries





Good water is the key for sake brewing. Subterranean rivers which flow from the holy mountain, Buko, ensure good sake is produced in Chichibu, where there are three sake breweries including Buko Sake Brewery. Additionally, there are two wineries and one whisky distillery in Chichibu. According to the website "Whisky for Everyone", Japan is the third largest producer of whisky behind Scotland and USA. In fact, World Whiskies Awards has categories only for Japanese whiskies. Suntory and Nikka are the leading producers and large-scale enterprises, but a distillery in Chichibu called Venture Whisky won awards in two categories in World Whiskies Awards in 2016, "Best Japanese Single Cask Single Malt Whisky" and "Japanese Single Cask Single Malt Whisky 12 years and under" with Ichiro's Malt Chichibu Single Cask No. 3867.

Venture Whisky is a very small distillery with only 13 full-time staff members and produces 90,000 litters of whisky a year, which is the volume that mid-scale distillers produce in 2-3 weeks and the large scale ones produce only in 2-3 days. Therefore the distillery is not open for the public with the exception of groups of highly interested people with reservation beforehand.

Today, we were very fortunate to have a rare look inside the distillery guided by Mr. Ichiro Akuto, the founder of Venture Whisky and the blender of Ichiro's Malt whiskies and the staffs who are passionate for whisky making.

ベンチャーウイスキー。その名から分かるように、いわゆる「ベ ンチャービジネス」として始められたウイスキー蒸溜所である。し







かし、ここで造られるイチローズモルトブランドのウイスキーは、 既に世界では日本を代表するウイスキーの一つとして認められている。

実家である老舗の酒蔵の経営権の譲渡が決まった時、それまで造ってきたウイスキーの原酒を廃棄するという宣告を受け、行き場を失った約4,000樽のウイスキーの原酒を引き取ったイチロー氏が、これを元にベンチャーウイスキーの前身である工房を立ち上げたのが平成16年。日本ではウイスキー人気が下火であったにもかかわらず、その潜在能力を確信していたイチロー氏は、本場スコットランドに渡り、ウイスキー造りを学びながら、自前の蒸溜所を立ち上げる準備を進める。

Venture Whisky is a distillery that began as a "venture business" as the company name indicates. Mr. Ichiro was the son of an old sake brewer which extended the business to incorporate the production of whisky. While the business was purchased by another company, Mr. Ichiro loved the whisky so much that he took over 4,000 casks of the unblended malt whisky from his father's distillery which he used to start his workshop in 2004.

At the time, the whisky business was slow in Japan, but he was confident in its potential, and went to Scotland to learn the whisky brewing process and prepared his own distillery. The pot still that determines the quality of whisky in Venture Whisky's distillery was made haut couture by Forsyths in Scotland in order to produce whisky exactly how Mr. Ichiro wanted.

ウイスキー造りの生命線であり、その変容を決定するポットスチル(蒸溜釜)は、スコットランドのメーカー、フォーサイス社に直接オーダーして作らせた。原料である麦汁を発酵させる樽の素材にももちろんこだわった。マッカランがヨーロッパ産のオーク材とこだわるように、イチローズモルトは、日本古来の木材であるミズナラを使う。そして、「ちちぶ」は良い酒造りに必須の良い水に事欠かない。イチローズモルトには、大血川渓谷水系の軟水が使われている。さらに、夏季の最高気温35度、冬季の最低気温マイナス10度、昼夜の平均寒暖差が12度という厳しい「ちちぶ」の気候風土は、上質のウイスキー造りの必須条件を満たしていた。

現在、主にイングランド産の大麦麦芽(モルト)を使っているが、近い将来、「ちちぶ」で栽培された大麦のモルトのみを使った「ちちぶのシングルモルト」を造ることと、埼玉県産のピートを使うことが既にイチロー氏の視野に入っている。そんな彼の夢は、30年物のイチローズモルトを飲むこと。その頃には、ベンチャーウイスキーのポットスチルも、かつてスコットランドで見た、年老いて威厳に満ちたポットスチルのような重厚さを増し、メイド・イン・「ちちぶ」のウイスキーは新たな伝統となっているに違いない。

There are three factors that make Ichiro's malt whisky extraordinary: the wood for the casks; the water; and the climate. The choice of wood for the casks (where the fermentation of the malt occurs) affects the taste of whisky. As European oak is essential for the Macallan, the world-wide famous highland single malt Scotch whisky, Mr. Ichiro chose Japanese Oak for his casks. Chichibu's water contains less calcium and magnesium ions, which is desirable

4,5

スコットランド フォーサイス社製 ポットスチル

A copper pot still manufactured by Forsyths, a Scottish leading company of making pot stills





Beyond Ordinary Itineraries

for the production of good whisky. Chichibu's climate is very harsh for human beings. Its maximum temperature in Summer is 35C°, the minimum temperature in Winter is -10C°, and the average difference of temperature between daytime and nighttime is 12C°. However, this intemperate climate in Chichibu is perfect for whisky making. An additional and significant factor, of course, is the sincere passion of Mr. Ichiro and all the staff members have for whisky making.

Ichiro's whisky primarily uses malt imported from England, but the aim of Mr. Ichiro is to make Single Malt Whisky only with the malt made in Chichibu and the peat made in Saitama prefecture in the near future. His dream is to taste Ichiro's malt whisky of 30 years. By that time, the pot still will have a massive splendor and

A Great Attempt to Make a New Tradition

will exude a certain dignity as the ones that he saw in Scotland. Furthermore, he hopes in 30 years that the whisky made in Chichibu will have become traditional produce.

「ちちぶ」には、BAR ホッピングという文化がある。言うなれば『はして BAR』。はして酒というと、通常は、つまみや雰囲気を変えるべく店を変える、どちらかと言うと『居酒屋ホッピング』のイメージが強い。しかし、「ちちぶ」の『はして』の目的は、つまみではなく、イチローズモルト。スタンダードな定番商品でさえ一般の市場では入手が困難なイチローズモルトには、昔から取引のある人が所有している樽や、限定生産の特別なウイスキーも存在する。それぞれの BAR のオーナーやバーテンダーが独自に選んだレアなイチローズモルトに出会うために BAR をはしてする BAR ホッピングは、「ちちぶ」でしか味わえない新たな夜の楽しみである。

Bar-hopping is becoming a local tradition in Chichibu. Normally, in Japan, a pub-crawl involves a selection of *izakaya* (trans. Japanese style drinking houses with a menu of small dishes like *yakitori* (trans. grilled chicken skewers) and *sashimi* (trans. sliced raw fish) for various food for snacks). In Chichibu, however, people crawl authentic bars. The purpose of this crawl is not to sample food or girls but

Ichiro's Malt Whiskies. Ichiro's malt whiskies, even the standard ones, are very difficult to find in the general market because of its small production. They are among some of the rarest, most special whiskies that only a few can obtain. Bar-hoppers seek various rare bottles of Ichiro's malt whisky that the owner or bartenders of each bar in Chichibu have selected for their stock. If you have ever heard of the fame of Ichiro's Malt whiskies, or even if you have never heard of it but if you are a whisky lover, why don't you stay in Chichibu to make bar crawl to taste all the Ichiro's Malt whiskies that exist in the world?

List of bars

イチローズモルトを飲める「ちちぶ」のバー 一覧 (50音順)

List of bars in Chichibu where you can taste Ichiro's malt whiskies

カフェ&バー オードヴィー

"生命の水"を表わす"オードヴィー"。洒落たジャズが流れる空間。世界の銘酒とそれを彩る料理、鮮やかなカクテルとこだわりのインテリアがバータイムを彩る。

埼玉県秩父市大宮 5524-2

◎ 0494-25-5910 ② 14 時~翌 0 時 ⊗月休

Shu Ha Li (シュハリ)

株父銘仙出張所として使われた、昭和初期の建物を利用したバー。カクテルの他、イチローズモルトなどのウイスキーも充実。壁にはイチローズモルトのジョーカーラベルの絵を描いた、画家の作品も飾られている。

埼玉県秩父市番場町11-5

◎ 0494-26-5555 ③ 18 時~ 23 時 ※日・月休

Bar Snob (バースノッブ)

大正ロマン漂う建物の1階にあるバー。イチローズモルトは1杯700円~で、 定番のホワイトラベルや、プレミアム・ブラックラベルなど、常時数種類を置いている。

埼玉県秩父市番場町 15-5

◎ 0494-22-5945 ③ 19 時~閉店は日により異なる ⊗火休

BAR Te・Airigh (バーチェアリ)

店主はウイスキーコニサー(ウイスキー文化研究所によるウイスキー資格認定制度)の資格を持つウイスキーのエキスパート。ウイスキー3種セットで少量ずつの飲み比べができる。1,000円 \sim 、イチローズモルトは1杯700円 \sim 。

埼玉県秩父市宮側町 8-4

◎ 0494-24-8833 ③ 17 時~翌 0 時半 ⊗水休

Caffè & bar Eau de Vie

An authentic bar where Jazz is played as a background music.

5524-2 Omiya Chichibu-shi

Tel: 0494-25-5910

Open 14:00 - 0:00 Closed on Mondays

Shu Ha Li

A bar located in a building built in mid 20th century.

11-5 Bamba-machi, Chichibu-shi

Tel: 0494-26-5555

Open 18:00 - 23:00 Closed on Sundays and Mondays

Bar Snob

A bar located in a building built in 1920's.

15-5 Bamba-machi, Chichibu-shi

Tel: 0494-22-5945

Open 19:00 - (closing time varies.) Closed on Tuesdays

Bar Te-Airigh

The owner is a certified whisky expert.

8-4 Miyakawa-cho, Chichibu-shi

Tel: 0494-24-8833

Open 17:00 - 0:30 Closed on Wednesdays

メープルベース「ちちぶ」、新たなる挑戦。

Beyond Ordinary Itineraries

The Chichibu Area in Saitama Prefecture

日本の魅力 発見プロジェクト 埼玉県 秩父地域

Chapter 2

A Great Attempt to Make a New Tradition in the Chichibu area

"Maple Base"

text by *Rei Saionji* photographs by *Hide Urabe*







新たなる 伝統への礎 メープルシロップの産地といえば、多くの人が思い浮かべるのはカナダであろう。事実、世界中に出回るメープルシロップの約8割がカナダ産である。カナダ産のメープルシロップの原料は、サトウカエデの樹液。サトウカエデが自生しているのは、カナダの南東部を中心とするごく一部の地域に限定されており、そこに位置するケベック州が主な原産地。カナダ産のメープルシロップのうち、このケベック州産が9割を占める。夏季の平均最高温度は26度、冬季の平均最低気温はマイナス10度を下回る寒暖の差が激しい気候故である。諸説ある伝説の一つによれば、北アメリカの先住民が、木肌から大量の樹液を流している木を発見したことがメープルシロップの起源であるともされている。

所変わって日本では、秋の風物詩は、赤や黄色に色づく紅葉を愛でる紅葉狩りであることは言うまでもなく、この紅葉は、葉の形がカエルの手に似ているということでその名がついた「カエデ」が代表的である。日本には、なんと 28 種のカエデが自生し、それぞれ葉の形や大きさ、色づく色が少しずつ違う。日本で、秋になると山々が暖色系の絵の具のみで描かれたような艶やかな姿に変わるのは、これらの様々なカエデのお陰である。カエデに恵まれたわが国でも、北アメリカに引けをとらず、アイヌ民族が古くからイタヤという品種のカエデの樹液を採取していたという歴史があった。夏季の最高気温 35 度、冬季の最低気温マイナス 10 度、昼夜の平均寒暖差が 12 度という寒暖の差が厳しい「ちちぶ」には、28 種のうち、イタヤは

もちろんのこと、計 21 種のカエデが自生している。これは、自生可能な北限と南限が交差しているためであると言われている。

Very few people would turn up their noses at the sight of pancakes drenched in plenty of maple syrup and half melted butter. Most of you will think of Canada at the mention of maple syrup. In fact, about 80% of all the maple syrup sold in the word market is made in Canada, especially in Quebec, where wild sugar maple trees grow. The land chosen by wild maple trees is characterized by the harsh climate with a large temperature difference between Summer and Winter. The average maximum temperature in Summer is 26C° and



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メープルベースは自然に調和した、ス タイリッシュなログ・キャビン風の店舗 Maple Base, a log cabin style shop the average minimum temperature in Winter is below -10°C. The origin of the consumption of maple syrup, according to one of the various opinions, can be traced to when the natives in North American Continent found a tree from which plenty of sap was running. In Japan, meanwhile, there are various kinds of maple trees that grow wild in the mountains. Primarily, they have been valued by the Japanese for the aesthetic of their leaves. Maple trees are called *kaede* in Japanese as their shape similar to that of a frog's hand. ('Kae' is from *kaeru* (trans. frogs) and 'de' is from *te* (trans. hands).) Moreover, viewing the fall foliage is as popular as cherry blossoms viewing in Spring among Japanese people. In other words, the appreciation of leaves has long been a popular tradition in Japan,



where 28 varieties of maple trees grow naturally. As the leaf of each variety has its own shape, size, and color, you can see the mountains colored in various warm colors, from red to yellow. In Japan it is said that the natives also used to take advantage of maple sap from the variety called Itaya (trans. mono maple, acer pictum subsp. mono).

In the Chichibu area, which has a similar variation in temperature throughout the year to Quebec, 21 varieties of maple trees out of 28 grow. The average maximum temperature is 35°C in Summer and the average minimum temperature in Winter is -10°C, and the average of the difference between day and night is 12°C. This is because the maple forests of the Chichibu area span across the northern limit and the southern limit.

In 1999, a noteworthy project called "Forests in Chichibu for 100

1999年、とあるプロジェクトが「ちちぶ」で始まった。その名も、『秩父百年の森』。「ちちぶ」の森林と林業の維持・発展を目指し、森林に関わる調査・研究及び森林の保全・育成活動を行うとともに、優れた森林を次世代に引き継ぐための環境教育活動を推進することを目的として始まったものである。「ちちぶ」は、そのほとんどが山間部=森林。稲作には不向きな風土であるため、代わりに人々は古くから山の恵みを活用してきた。しかしながら、その林業は現在、衰退の一途をたどる。林業とは、森林資源である木を伐採後、次の世代のために植樹し育てていくという、長い時間軸の中にある産業。現在、日本の林業を取り巻く状況は厳しく、山を守ることも難しい中、秩父が誇るべき森林資源を改めて見直すべく着目されたのが、木を伐らずに毎年冬にカエデの樹液を採取する「伐らない林業」であった。

この「伐らない林業」は、「ちちぶ」の中でもカエデが多く自生している大滝で、NPOや埼玉大学の協力のもと数年にわたり行われた調査から始まり、やがてある程度まとまった量のカエデの樹液が採れるようになった。現在「ちちぶ」では、建築用資材として戦後に植樹されたスギやヒノキが伐採の時を迎えているらしい。楢やブナ、カエデなど落葉広葉樹は葉を落として土を作るだけでなく、「緑のダム」と言われるほど保水性が高い。また、根の張り方が杉やヒノキといった針葉樹に比べて広く堅固なため、表土の流出を阻止する効果もある。落葉広葉樹は生息する生物に対しての食料供給



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源としても極めて有効なのだ。このために、NPOでは、時期を迎えたスギやヒノキを伐採しながら、将来の森を支えるためにカエデを植樹している。

years" commenced, which aims to maintain and to develop the forest and the forest industry. It promotes research and the studies involving the forest and its protection and the development. It also promotes environmental education so that the next generations can take action as its future caretakers. As most of the Chichibu area is mountainous and is not appropriate for rice farming, the locals have long taken advantage of the trees as the mountains' blessing. These days, however, the forestry industry has declined. It is not an easy business, as a matter of fact. It takes much time and care before it makes profit. Once trees are cut down, people must plant trees and take a good care of them until they grow enough, which is an investment for the next generation. As the conditions surrounding the forestry industry are harsh in Japan, it has become challenging to protect mountains. In this situation, the people in the Chichibu area started to focus on a "forest-based industry without chainsaws", in which they take the usage of maple sap. The forest-based industry without chainsaws started with the research of maple trees and their sap with the cooperation of a non-profit organization and Saitama University. After several years of effort the first stage was completed and now a certain amount of maple sap is able to be obtained. Cedar trees and Japanese cypress trees planted after the World War II to make the material for construction are due to be cut down, so the non-profit organization is currently doing so and is replacing them with maple trees for two reasons: firstly, for making maple syrup; and secondly, for making a sustainable forest with deciduous broad-leaved trees whose water-holding capacity is high and whose fallen leaves will turn into the earth.

The Maple Base is a place that doubles as a coffee shop and a

MAPLE BASE (メープルベース) は、2016 年秩父ミューズパー クに、まさに「ちちぶ」のメープルシロップの基地=ベースとなる べくオープンした。ここでは、メープルシロップをたっぷりとかけ



たパンケーキ、カエデの樹液やキハダの樹液で作ったサイダーの他、「ちちぶ」で採れた果実を使ったメニューを自然に溶け込んだ空間で味わうことができる。イチローズモルトのジェラートもはずせない。併設されたラボには、日本に1台しかないという本場カナダから取り寄せたメープルシロップ製造機、樹液を蒸発させてシロップを作る「エヴァポレーター(蒸発機)」が置いてあり、冬季は、タイミングが合えば、メープルシロップ製造の最終工程である樹液を煮詰める様子を間近で見ることができる。

カナダのメープルシロップと、「ちちぶ」のメープルシロップは どこが違うのであろうか。「ちちぶ」のメープルシロップは、カルシウムやカリウムなどのミネラルが多く、スクロースの他にグルコースやフルクトースを含むため、甘さが繊細である。「ちちぶ」で 主に使われているのは、アイヌ民族も注目していたイタヤで、その他に、オオモミジ、ウリハダカエデ、ヒナウチワカエデから樹液を採っている。メープルシロップを作るには、樹液を40分の1まで煮詰める必要があるため、大量の樹液が必要となるが、現在は樹液を採取している木の本数がまだ少ない。このため、これらの品種の樹液をブレンドしたメープルシロップが作られているが、いずれは、「ちちぶ」オリジナルの単一品種のメープルシロップも作り出されるようになるかもしれない。

メープルベースの他、地元酒蔵である武甲酒造や菓子屋をはじめ、「ちちぶ」の老舗の店の協力によって支えられている「ちちぶ」のメープルシロップのプロジェクト。近い将来には、メープルシロップは「ちちぶ」の新たな伝統となっているに違いない。



MAPLE BASE TAP&SAP 代表 井原愛子さん Ms. Aiko Ihara, TAP&SAP

grocery store where you can obtain maple syrup related foods and drinks founded in Chichibu Muse Park in 2016. It is named Maple Base because it works as a base for maple syrup in the Chichibu area. The menu of the café includes, needless to say, pancakes with maple syrup, as well as many other desserts made with local fruits, and a gelato of Ichiro's Malt Whisky.

In a lab space there is an evaporator of maple syrup imported from Canada, which cannot be found anywhere else in Japan. In Winter, if you are lucky, you can see this machine at work.

Is there any difference between the Canadian maple syrup and the Chichibu's one? It was explained to us that the maple syrup of Chichibu includes more minerals such as calcium and potassium than Canadian one. Also, Chichibu's one includes glucose and fructose other than saccharose, which makes its sweetness more delicate. Now Chichibu's maple syrup is made mainly with the sap

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of Itaya and other varieties. As the sap should be evaporated until it reaches a fortieth of its original volume to make maple syrup, a large amount is needed for mass production. In the current

situation, however, the number of maple trees to be sapped is very limited. Thus the sap of various varieties of maple trees is mixed to make syrup. But for the future, when everything is ready, the maple syrup of the single variety of maple trees may be produced. Furthermore, with the support of local long-established companies such as Buko Sake Brewery and confectionary shops other than Maple Base this project may make maple syrup Chichibu's new tradition.

メープルベース MAPLE BASE

埼玉県秩父郡小鹿野町長留 1129-1 株父ミューズパーク内 西武鉄道「西武株父駅」または、秩父鉄道「秩父駅」より、 株父ミューズパーク循環パス「ぐるりん号」に乗車。「スポーツの森」で下車し、徒歩 3 分。 1129-1 Nagatome, Ogano-machi, Chichibu-gun, Saitama pref. (inside Chichibu Muse Park)

Three-minute walk from the bus stop, "Sports-no-mori" (trans. field for sports) of circular bus called "Gururin-go" which departs from Seibu-Chichibu station of Seibu railway or Chichibu station of Chichibu railway.

Beyond Ordinary Itineraries

The Chichibu Area in Saitama Prefecture

日本の魅力 発見プロジェクト 埼玉県 秩父地域

Chapter 3

A Great Attempt to Make a New Tradition in the Chichibu area

"House of Miyamoto, an old farmhouse"

text by *Rei Saionji* photographs by *Hide Urabe*



新たなる 伝統への礎 古来から「ちちぶ」の名産品であった絹を仕入れに来る商人や、札所を巡る人々のための宿を起源とする宿泊施設が「ちちぶ」には複数点在する。小鹿野町にある宮本家の歴史は250年余り。幕末から受け継がれた母屋、蔵、馬屋を改築し、1日限定6組の予約しか受け付けない、宿泊者にとっては特別感が嬉しい古民家旅館である。さらに、12代目に当たる現在の当主は、数年前まで力士であったというサプライズ。現役中は、剣武という四股名で武蔵川部屋に所属していた。前頭十六枚目まで昇進したが、怪我のために止む無く引退。その後、故郷へ戻り、実家の家業を継ぐようになったという。

Chichibu used to be known as one of the biggest silk producing regions in Eastern Japan and as a region of pilgrimage tourism. There used to be many inns in the Chichibu area for the merchants and the pilgrims, some of which still remain. The House of Miyamoto in Ogano town dates back 250 years, once a rich farmhouse and now used as an inn, receives only 6 groups a day. The house of Miyamoto has another secret: the current owner of the house, the







12th head of the family Miyamoto, was a sumo wrestler until 2012. He gave up his carrier in sumo because of an injury and came back to his hometown to continue the family business.

宮本家は、宿泊の他に、 $11:00\sim21:00$ まで利用可能な日帰りプランもあるとのことで、今回はランチだけを宮本家でいただいた。ランチの前、蔵を改装した「蔵 BAR」で食前酒タイム。

昔は薬代わりに飲まれていたという薬酒をいただく。「ちちぶ」の山で採れるカリン、キンモクセイ、マタタビ、クロモジ、イカリ草、キハダ…。全部で52種類。薬酒というだけに、それぞれに効能があるが、肌に良いとされるキンモクセイのツボミを漬けたものと、虫歯予防に良いとされるクロモジ、猫のみならず人間にも強精剤として効能のあるマタタビを選択。クロモジで楊枝を作るには理由があったのかと納得する一方、マタタビの名前の由来が、絹の産地「ちちぶ」を訪れる絹商人が元気になって「また旅」ができると言

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宮本荘グループ 元幕内 剣武 専務 取締役 宮本一輝さん

Mr. Kazuteru Miyamoto, Executive Vice President of Miyamoto-so group and ex-sumo wrestler called Tsurugi-dake.

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われた頃を想像しながら、芳香豊かな薬酒を味わう。これら宮本家の薬酒の製法には秘密があるらしい。甘さをつけるのに、一般的な 水砂糖の他に「ちちぶ」で採れたアカシアの蜂蜜を入れるそうだ。 このため、果実酒にありがちなベタベタした甘さがない。

酔いが回らないうちに、蔵 BAR の 2 階へ移動する。 2 階には、宮本家に代々伝わってきた雛人形や美術品、そして、当主が相撲界で活躍していた時につけていた化粧まわし、懸賞金が入っていたのし袋や断髪式で落とした髷など、ファン必見の相撲グッズが展示されている。古民家プラスアルファの宮本家ならではのもう一つの魅力である。

囲炉裏のある母屋へと移動し、お待ちかねの食事タイム。食事は、「ちちぶ」の食材をふんだんに使った滋味溢れる素朴な田舎料理が中心で、特に、囲炉裏で焼いたこんにゃく、イワナの塩焼き、椎茸が絶品であった。そして、締めは宮本家ならではの元関取の当主直伝の農家屋敷風ちゃんこ鍋。量、質ともに盛りだくさんなご馳走であった。

宮本家には、別邸もある。この別邸は、松本城の改修を手がけた 宮大工が古民家風に建築した建物で、木材は飛騨から取り寄せ、着

As the house of Miyamoto also receives one-day trippers from 11:00 to 21:00, we only ate lunch here. Before lunch we enjoyed aperitif in Kura (trans. storehouse) Bar in the refurbished storehouse.

In Kura Bar, 52 kinds of liquors flavored with local ingredients, such as fruits and herbs, are available. All were once taken for





medical purposes. We chose three liquors: one flavored with flower buds of fragrant olives; another with Kuromoji, and the third with silvervine. Fragrant olives are said to be good for skin. Kuromoji, a kind of camphor laurel which traditionally is used for toothpicks, is said to be anticavity. Silvervine, which cats like, is believed to work to enhance energy (particularly for travelers). We thought the explanation for this was very cute. Silvervine is called *matatabi* in Japanese. Matatabi is a single word but if it is parted in two syllables, it becomes mata-tabi. 'Mata' means 'again' and 'tabi' means 'travel'. So, people who visited Chichibu for their silk business liked to take this liquor as a wish for safe travels before making the return trip. This is an example of the linguistic preferences of the Japanese which can be seen in many cases, even in present days. Japanese people tend to love puns. Sometimes it seems like just a word game but it has a quite serious aspect as well. In Japan there is a belief called Kotodama (trans. the spirit of words), which means that all the words or sounds have power when uttered. So with just drinking liquor of matatabi, people are able to think that they will

be granted safe travel back home or to another place.

Before getting too drunk, we went to the upper story of Kura Bar to see valuable objects owned by Miyamoto family, among which were sumo related objects (a must-see if you like sumo). There were apron-like cloths with luxurious embroideries called *kesho-mawashi* in Japanese which sumo wrestlers wear in the introduction ceremony before the tournament, special envelopes in which prize money for a match was kept, the topknot of hair which was cut off when he retired and much more. They all belong to the present owner of House of Miyamoto, who used to be a sumo wrestler. This is another unique charm that House of Miyamoto has.

Lunch in House of Miyamoto is huge but the taste is very delicate. The menu includes various typical dishes cooked with local ingredients. All are simple rural dishes. Vegetables and river fish are grilled in a traditional sunken hearth called *irori* in Japanese. You can also

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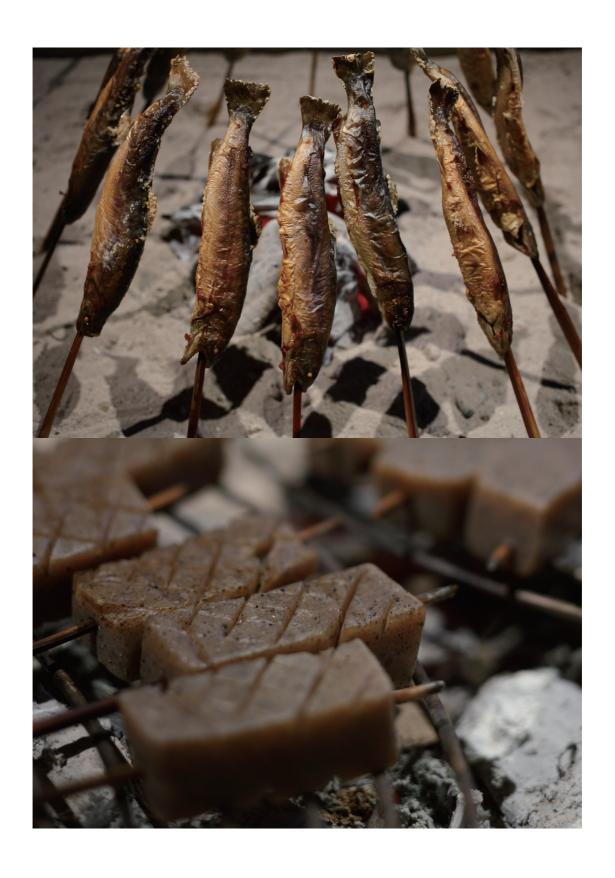
experience the typical dish that sumo wrestlers eat every day which is called *chanko* at the end of the course!

Another building at the House of Miyamoto, separated from the main

one, was constructed by a carpenter who specialized in restoring shrines and temples, including the Castle of Matsumoto in Japan. The construction took two years and all the wood used was brought from Hida, the place which is famous for the quality of timbers, about 250 km away to the west.

工から完成まで2年をかけたという本格的な造りである。

宮本家がある小鹿野町は、秩父市の隣町であり、役者から裏方まで全てを住民で行う農村歌舞伎で有名な地である。秩父市と小鹿野町の間にそびえる両神山は、秩父三山の一つに数えられ、古くから信仰の山とされていた。日本の国技でもある相撲も、古事記や日本書紀に書かれている力くらべの神話が起源とされ、その年の農作物の収穫を占う祭りの儀式として毎年行われていた宮廷の行事であったという。大相撲の開催は、1月、5月、9月が両国、3月が大阪、7月が名古屋、11月が福岡。地方巡業がない月には、東京の相撲部屋で朝稽古を見た後に、「ちちぶ」へ移動し、宮本家で相撲の魅力を五感で感じるツアーを催行することもあるそうだ。現在、





相撲は、外国人観光客にも人気が高く、両国国技館には大勢の観光 客が訪れている。元力士が経営する宮本家も、相撲に関心を寄せる 外国人観光客からの注目度が高い。そんな相撲人気に、敷地内に常 設の土俵を作る予定があると当主は語る。土俵が完成した折には、 宮本家から、相撲を体験し、楽しむ人々の声が響くことだろう。か つて力士として伝統ある国技を守っていた当主は、今後、新たな形 で、さらなる相撲の人気と「ちちぶ」の里山の自然を守り、楽しむ 伝統を継承していく。

Ogano town, where the House of Miyamoto is located, is situated next to Chichibu-shi and is famous for its kabuki productions performed by the villagers, who do everything from makeup to acting. It has become a tradition of this town and kabuki is played in local festivals. Its history dates back more than 200 years, when a kabuki actor who played in Edo (Tokyo was called Edo until 150 years ago) came back to his hometown and started to teach kabuki to the villagers. And here, another tradition may have started by an ex-sumo wrestler who returned to his hometown.

The House of Miyamoto offers the spirit of sumo wrestlers to its guests. We were told that there are plans to create a *dohyo* (trans. the sumo ring) at the site. In January, May, and September, a sumo tournament is held in Tokyo. Tours of sumo fans come to the House of Miyamoto after watching the morning training of sumo wrestlers in Tokyo (only when the sumo wrestlers are in Tokyo). Fortunately, the current master of the *Heya* (trans. training quarters) he belonged is from Hawaii and speaks English. If you have chance to see sumo in Tokyo and you like it, why don't you visit the House of Miyamoto to deepen your interest and knowledge about sumo?

農家屋敷 宮本家

House of Miyamoto, an old farmhouse

http://www.miyamotoke.jp

埼玉県秩父郡小鹿野町長留 510 西武秩父駅から西武バス小鹿野行き(1番のりば)松井田下車 徒歩 5 分 510 Nagaru, Ogano-machi, Chichibu-gun, Saitama prefecture Take Seibu bus bound for Ogano at Seibu-Chichibu Station (Bus Stop No.1) and get off at Matsuida. About 5 minutes walk. Beyond Ordinary Itineraries

The Chichibu Area in Saitama Prefecture

日本の魅力 発見プロジェクト 埼玉県 秩父地域

Chapter 4

A Great Attempt to Make a New Tradition in the Chichibu area

"Chichibu Meisen House"

text by *Rei Saionji* photographs by *Hide Urabe*





新たなる 伝統への礎

紀元前に初代の国造により伝えられたとされる養蚕と機織りの技術が、平地が少なく稲作には適さなかった「ちちぶ」で暮らす人々の生活を支えていた。鎌倉時代には、関東の武士たちが旗指物(戦場で目印となるよう背中にさしていた旗)を丈夫な「ちちぶ」の絹で作るようになり、江戸時代には、幕府の衣冠東帯用に秩父絹が採用されるなど、秩父絹はその丈夫さから全国的に有名なトップブランドとなっていく。明治の世になると、高品質な秩父絹は、欧米、特にフランスのリオンを中心とする絹市場でその価値を認められ、ヨーロッパの絹織物の原料として輸出されるようになる。

Many people know of Japan's beautiful kimono these days but fewer have heard of Meisen. Meisen is a kind of Japanese silk fabric. The principle feature of Meisen that distinguishes it from ordinary silk fabric is its price and its texture. To weave Meisen fabric, second grade silk thread is used, which makes its price low and its texture less smooth. This characteristic may initially appear to be negative, but in actuality it has made silk kimono more accessible. Chichibu is one of the major producing areas of Meisen and its fabric is called Chichibu

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他方で、輸出に適さないセカンドラインの絹糸を使って織られるようになったのが秩父銘仙である。当初は、縞模様が中心だった秩父銘仙は、明治後期に開発された、簡単に緯糸で仮止めされた経糸の上にプリントし、仮止めの緯糸をほぐして抜きながら織っていくという『ほぐし捺染』の技術によって変わっていく。その特徴は、リバーシブル。そして、セカンドラインという手軽さと、海外のデザインや、画家の卵が手がけたデザインを採用するなど、大胆でアヴァンギャルドな柄のプリントが評判となり、昭和初期には、東京のモダンガールや女学生など、当時のファッショニスタに愛好され、おしゃれで手頃な普段着の着物として全国的に大流行した。

Meisen.

The Chichibu area is very mountainous and the flat plains that are suitable for the rice crop are narrow and limited. The technique of sericulture and weaving, which is said to have been brought to Chichibu before the Common Era, has long maintained the lives of the locals. The silk of Chichibu was well known in the first era of samurai governance (1185-1333). Samurai carried his own flag made with Chichibu silk in battlefields. Later in Edo period (1603-1868) Chichibu silk was mainly used for the official costumes of Tokugawa Shogunate. After the modernization of the nation in the 19th century, the value of Chichibu silk was very high in the world market and

驚くことに、玉虫色の光沢のある着物があるのも、秩父銘仙の特徴である。いわば『原宿系の kawaii ファッション』のはしりであった秩父銘仙は、着物を着る機会がめっきり減ってしまった今日、着物としてよりも、小物類が中心となっている。しかし、着物を新たな自己表現のファッションとして日常に取り入れようとする『原宿系』の若者も増えており、その動向が世界から注目される今、秩父銘仙の新たな伝統が作られていく予兆が感じられる。

it was exported to Europe for the production of silk fabric. While the first-class thread was for the export, the second-class type was for the locals. As the second-class thread was thick and strong, it was used for working clothes in farm and moderately priced kimono for everyday use. The kimono of Chichibu Meisen was mainly

decorated with a striped pattern before a new weaving technique was invented in the beginning of the 20th century. This technique involved printing a design onto vertical threads fixed temporarily with just a few horizontal threads, which were removed when weaving. This technique allowed them to make a reversible kimono with different color variations easily. The process was also time efficient which in turn lowered the cost of production down. There was also a defect as every rose had its thorn. This technique was not suitable to realize small, complex patterns. That said, production houses worked around this limitation and focused on large print designs. Also, designs by overseas designers and budding Japanese artists were adopted, and as a result Chichibu Meisen started to be recognized as avant-garde at that time. In 1920's and 30's, Chichibu Meisen became very popular as a fashionable kimono with an affordable price among fashion-conscious people including "modern girls" and students.

Another characteristic of Chichibu Meisen is that it is able to pro-





duce a kimono with iridescent color effects. Taking its creativity, fashionable designs, popularity and color into consideration, it could be said that Chichibu Meisen was one of the origins of today's kawaii (trans. cute) fashion in Harajuku, Tokyo. Recently, as the number of people who wear kimono has declined and there are not many opportunities to wear kimono as there used to be, we hardly found any new kimono made from Chichibu Meisen, but there are many interesting goods made with the silk sold in shops. However, there are many fashion-conscious people and designers all over the world who utilize traditional items like kimono as a form of expression. Fashion design has a bigger international impact than the days of old. So, we are sure that once Chichibu Meisen captivates the attention of the public, it

アメリカ人建築家によって考案された大谷石積みの外装や昭和初期の面影が残る建物を利用してできた「ちちぶ銘仙館」では、秩父銘仙の製法や魅力を十分に知ることができる。体験コーナーも充実しており、実際に、型染め、高機を使った手織り体験、藍染を体験することができる。

will become a new tradition of Chichibu.

Chichibu Meisen House is in a unique building built based on the idea of American architect, who came to Japan in early 1900's to create buildings with a fusion of the latest American and traditional Japanese techniques. In Chichibu Meisen House, many pieces of kimono of Chichibu Meisen are exhibited as well as the production process. Even though the explanation is given only in Japanese, you can see and feel Chichibu Meisen. Moreover, there are courses where you can practice the printing, weaving, and dying process.

ちちぶ銘仙館

Chichibu Meisen Kan (Chichibu Meisen House)

http://www.meisenkan.com

埼玉県秩父市熊木町 28-1 西武秩父駅から徒歩 5 分 28-1 Kumagi-machi, Chichibu-shi, Saitama prefecture 5 minutes walk from Seibu Chichibu station



Beyond Ordinary Itineraries

The Chichibu area in Saitama prefecture

— Chichibu in your pockets

One Day Trip

to Chichibu by Red Arrow Express

INVITATION to CHICHIBU

A historic town located in the Chichibu-Tama National Park in Western Saitama, which was prosperous in the production and trade of silk textiles. The Night Festival with over 300 years of history is held in every December and illustrates its prosperity.

TIME SCHEDULE

TIME	SCHEDULE	TRANSPORTATION
7:30	Ikebukuro Station(池袋駅)	Seibu Line Red Arrow Limited Express No.5(西武池袋線 レッド アロー号)
8:59	Seibu-Chichibu Station(西武秩父駅)	
9:10	Seibu-Chichibu Station (西武秩父駅) Bus stop No.5	Seibu Bus(西武バス)
10:25	Mitsumine Shrine(三峯神社) (the last bus stop)	
		Walk (15min.)
10:40	Mitsumine Shrine(三峯神社)	
11:40	Lunch	
12:30	MitsumineShrine (三峯神社)(Busstop)	Seibu Bus(西武バス)
13:45	Seibu-ChichibuStation(西武秩父駅)	
		Walk (5 min.)
14:00	Chichibu Meisen House(秩父銘仙館)	
		Walk (10 min.)
15:00	Chichibu Shrine, Chichibu Festival Exhibition Hall(秩父まつり会館)	
		Walk (5min.)
16:30	Buko Shuzo Yanagida So-honten (Sake Brewery)(武甲酒造)	
17:30	Dinner	
19:00	Bar Time	
20:25	Seibu-Chichibu station(西武秩父駅)	Seibu Line Red Arrow Limited Express No.44 (西武池袋線 レッドアロー号)
21:46	Ikebukuro Station(池袋駅)	

WHAT TO SEE

•Mitsumine Shrine(三峯神社)

A historical and solemn shrine which worships wolves on the mountain top. Along the approaching path to the shrine there are several shops and restaurants of local cuisine.

298-1 Mitsumine, Chichibu-shi (秩父市三峯 298-1) TEL: 0494-55-0241

•Chichibu Shrine (秩父神社)

The main shrine of the area full of beautiful buildings with elaborate carving. The area around Chichibu Shrine is recommended for strolling, and the walk is dotted with shops, restaurants and tourist spots.

1-3, Banba-machi, Chichibu-shi(秩父市番場町 1-3) TEL: 0494-22-0262

•Chichibu Meisen House (Gallery)(ちちぶ銘仙館)

Hand-woven silk fabric called 'Chichibu Meisen' and its kimono are exhibited as well as the production process. Meisen fabric was invented to make silk kimono more accessible as it is woven with second grade thread and printed before weaving. Its vivid color and avant-garde large print designs captured the attention of fashion-conscious people in the beginning of 20th century.

Mini courses of printing, weaving and dying are available.

28-1 Kumagi-machi, Chichibu-shi(秩父市熊木町 28-1)

TEL: 0494-21-2112 Opening hours 9:00-16:00 Closed only on New Year Holidays Admission: 200 yen

•Chichibu Festival Exhibition Hall (秩父まつり会館)

Festival floats and stalls related to the Chichibu night festival (秩父夜まつり) held on December 2 and 3 every year are shown.

2-8 Banba-machi, Chichibu-shi(秩父市番場町 2-8)

TEL: 0494-23-1110 Opening hours 9:00-16:00

Closed on the fourth and fifth Tuesdays (Open on National Holidays),

Admission: 410 yen

•Buko Shuzo Yanagida So-honten(武甲酒造 柳田総本店)

Sake Brewery founded in 1753, whose building is designated as a national tangible cultural property. Brewery tour and sake tasting is available with reservation. 21-27 Miyakawamachi, Chichibu-shi(秋父市宮川町 21-27)

TEL: 0120-760-046 Opening hours: 8:00-17:30 Closed only on New Year's Day

RESTAURANTS & CAFÉ

•House of Miyamoto(農業屋敷 宮本家)

A 'must-visit' for sumo fans. An old farmhouse inn managed by a former sumo wrestler is also open only for lunch. Fixed menu includes typical dishes cooked with local ingredients besides special dish for sumo wrestlers. Very rare sumo related gadgets exhibited are impressive.

20min by taxi from Central Chichibu.

510 Nagaru, Ogano-machi, Chichibu-gun(秩父郡小鹿野町長留 510)

TEL: 0494-75-4060

* Reservation Required

■Chimbata (ちんばた 亭端)

Japanese Fusion restaurant. Rice bowl with miso marinated pork is recommended for lunch.

5919 Omiya, Chichibu-shi(秩父市大宮 5919)

TEL: 0494-26-7004

Lunch: 11:00-15:00, Dinner: 17:30-22:00

■Salvage (サルベージ)

Italian restaurant which offers dishes mainly made with the local ingredients.

8-4 Miyakawa-cho, Chichibu-shi(秩父市宮側町 8-4)

TEL: 0494-22-6227

Lunch: 11:30-14:00, Dinner: 17:00-22:00

■Public Bar Te-Airigh(チェ・アリー)

Authentic bar which offers various kinds of Ichiro's malt, Chichibu whiskey, and more than 500 Western liquors.

8-4 Miyakawa-machi, Chichibu-shi(秩父市宮側町 8-4)

TEL: 0494-24-8833 Opening hours: 17:00-0:30

TIME TABLES

• Time Table of Red Arrow Limited Express (as of March, 2017)

From Ikebukuro Station From Seibu Chichibu Station 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30 18:25, 19:25, 20:25, 21:25

-Time Required: $1 hr\ 22 min$.

-Fare: 1,480 yen (Basic Fare 780 yen + Express Fare with seat reservation 700 yen)

• Time Table of Seibu Bus bound for Mitsumine Shrine (as of March, 2017)

From Seibu Chichibu Station

9:10, 9:30 (only on weekends and holidays), 10:05, 12:15, 14:00, 15:00

From Mitsumine Shrine

10:35, 12:30, 13:30 (only on weekends and holidays), 14:30, 15:30, 16:30

-Time Required: 1hr 15min.

-Fare: 930 yen

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Beyond Ordinary Itineraries

The Chichibu Area in Saitama Prefecture

"SAITAMA"

日本の魅力 発見プロジェクト 〜埼玉県 秩父地域〜

※本プロジェクトは、経済産業省関東経済産業局が実施する「平成28年度地域とホテルコンシェルジュ が連携した、新たなインバウンド富裕層獲得のための支援事業」と連携して、グランド ハイアット 東京 コンシェルジュ 阿部住氏のアドバイスを得て実施しています。

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