Shikotsu-Toya National Park – Toyako Area

Shikotsu-Toya National Park is a national park designated in 1949 and located amidst the natural splendor centering on Lake Toya, Mt. Yotei, Noboribetsu, Lake Shikotsu and Jozankei. The Toyako Area is characterized by a rough yet familiar, varied nature, which unfolds in the surroundings of Lake Toya, which is well known as Japan’s northernmost ice-free lake along with Lake Shikotsu, and Mt. Usu, which still continues rigorous volcanic activities.

Toyako Visitor Center

The Ministry of the Environment has established visitor centers in the 28 national parks across the nation with the aim of providing information on the nature and use of national parks. The Toyako Visitor Center is an exhibition and information supply facility where visitors can get acquainted with the natural environment of Lake Toya through an exhibition and explanations concerning the surrounding natural environment and flora and fauna therein.

Lecture Room

The nature of the Toyako Area throughout the year is introduced using a 150-inch high-definition television.

View Corner

You can see the Kuppira Crater Remnants of the Disaster which were created by the 2000 eruption.

Books Corner

You can check nature information on surrounding areas while enjoying the view of Lake Toya.

Information Corner

Using a PC, you can closely study nature information on the Toyako Area with a 3D screen and audio.

Toyako Visitor Center

Facility Guide

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed: Dec. 31 – Jan. 1
142-5, Toyako Onsen, Toyako-cho, Abuta-gun, Hokkaido
Tel: 0142-26-2655
URL: http://www.toyako-vc.jp
Free admission (Volcano Science Museum requires admission fees.)
Free parking (capacity: 22 passenger vehicles and 12 buses)
* A tour guide will be available upon request.
Field Information
Guidance on how to enjoy the fields by Lake Toya and an introduction of national parks across the nation are given.

Origin of Lake Toya
The characteristics of Lake Toya, a caldera lake, and Mt. Usu, a still active volcano, are introduced through the history and mechanisms of eruptions.

Introduction of Lake Toya
Aerial photos of Lake Toya spread across the floor. Above them stand posts describing Lake Toya's observation points and thus introducing the area.

Utilization of natural energy sources
The facility has adopted a photovoltaic power generation system and a ground source heat recovery system in consideration of the need to save energy and protect the environment.

Volcano Science Museum
The Volcano Science Museum, connected with the Toyako Visitor Center via the skywalk, introduces the volcanic activities of Mt. Usu, which erupts every 20 to 50 years.

Nature in and around Lake Toya
Characteristics and relations of flora and fauna around Lake Toya are introduced, using beautiful photos and real specimens.