



北海道遺産

Hokkaido Heritage

Hokkaido Heritage

Precious treasures of Hokkaido to be handed down to the next generation: These treasures were selected by Hokkaido citizens from tangible and intangible cultural assets, such as the fertile nature to the history, culture, life and industry of people who have lived in Hokkaido.

Fifty-two Hokkaido Heritage assets have been approved: 25 in October, 2001 in the first selection, and 27 in October, 2004 in the second selection.

Hokkaido Heritage Project

This campaign tries to cultivate vitality and a fascination of cities and to create a new Hokkaido full of attraction through finding, preserving, polishing, and utilizing "treasures" of the cities. There are leaders, formed by deeply concerned Hokkaido citizens, working with the Hokkaido Heritage Project and they are considered to be the symbol of this non-government initiated project. In the cities that have heritage sites, various kinds of activities have already begun and, in the meantime, some companies have been producing tours and creating new products related to Hokkaido Heritage sites. Thus, this project is developing step by step.



Distribution of Hokkaido Heritage Sites (52 in total)



Saga born in Hokkaido, Messages from Hokkaido

Every relic of Hokkaido's heritage tells a story of the generations who have lived here before us in our northern land, and each story sends a message which must not be forgotten by those of us who were born and live in Hokkaido now, by everyone who loves Hokkaido, and by those who will, we hope, nourish Hokkaido in the years to come. We are proud of the precious land we have inherited, and we realize that we must take great care of it and use it wisely to create new attractions for all to enjoy, while at the same time remaining sensitive to its preservation. Such are the aims of the Hokkaido Heritage Project.

We hope that from now on each town will plant and raise the seeds for the development of plentiful and appealing tales. Seeds do come in all sizes; big does not necessarily mean good, nor does small mean bad. Even if the seeds planted by these towns are small, it is still possible to create a greater Hokkaido full of new attractions and things of beauty when everybody's enthusiasm and all the special projects are put together.

"Hometown making" means creating a hometown that children can always be proud of, whether they stay on, or whether, in the future, they leave to live in some other place. "Educating local people" will instill in people love and enjoyment of their town. "Story making" provides opportunities for people to love and enjoy living in their own hometown throughout their lives. "Assets making" uses our heritage to help the economy. "Town making," will preserve our heritage and hand it over to the next generation.

Together we should start writing Chapter 1 of our island chronicle, and thereby leave some important messages for the people of Hokkaido yet unborn.