



## Motomachi Area

The Edo Shogunate concluded the Treaty of Peace and Amity with Russia in 1855, followed by the Treaty of Amity and Commerce in 1858, leading to the opening of Hakodate Port. The teachings of Orthodox Christianity were brought by Saint Nicholas, a monk-priest of the Russian Orthodox Church (later the first Archbishop of Japan), which subsequently led to the establishment of the Japanese Orthodox Church.

The Former Orthodox Church Hakodate Ward Public Hall is a Western-style building constructed in 1910 in the colonial style. Designed by Chōjirō Konishi, it is a representative example of Western architecture. It was designated a National Important Cultural Property in 1974. Furnishings from the Meiji era are displayed as they were, creating a very splendid atmosphere. It felt as if I had slipped back in time.



Orthodox Church of Christ · Former Hakodate Ward Public Hall

It is said that both Emperor Taishō and Emperor Shōwa visited here during their time as Crown Princes.



My beloved daughter dressed in a hired costume



## Sapporo

I visited the Clock Tower, Sapporo's symbol. It was smaller than in the photos, but I was happy to see it and feel its history.

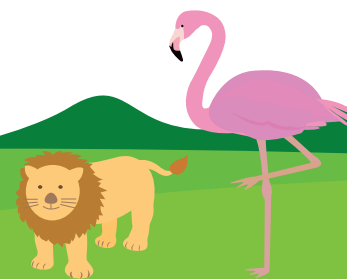
### Clock Tower

It was constructed in 1878 as a facility for Sapporo Agricultural College, the predecessor of Hokkaido University. Built according to the vision of Dr Clark, the first Vice-Principal of Hokkaido University, Sapporo City Clock Tower served as an office for educational organisations, a military facility, and a private library. It was designated a National Important Cultural Property in 1970. In 1881, a large clock mechanism manufactured by the American Howard Company was installed, leading to its adoption of the name 'Sapporo Clock Tower' as it is known today. This mechanism continues to operate to this day, making it one of Japan's oldest clock towers still in active service.



### What else?

At Maruyama Zoo, I was healed by the cuteness of the animals. Watching them relax and move around freely in the spacious grounds was delightful. The food was superb too! The soup curry was full of spices that warmed me up, and I thought, 'Yes, this is Sapporo!'. The Ramen I had at Ebisoba Ichigen had a rich shrimp broth that was absolutely delicious — a bowl to remember. My 5-day, 4-night trip to Hokkaido was unforgettable.



How about this Yamatodamashii? We need your opinions and feedbacks more. We are waiting for them!

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We deliver

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Vol.68  
Oct. 2025

### The Philosophy of Daimyou Ltd.

The Philosophy of Daimyo Company Limited.

Under our slogan of 'We deliver the YAMATODAMASHII', the Daimyo Ltd offers information about the Japanese history and antique goods and aims at guiding our customers to the old Japanese world by fulfilling our customers demands to antique gears.

## Company Trip to Hokkaido

Hello! I'm Takashi Hanamoto. How are you all doing? This summer in Japan was incredibly hot, wasn't it? We went on a company trip to Hakodate and Sapporo in Hokkaido!!! I thought it might be cooler, but it turned out to be a record-breaking heatwave...

However, we were blessed with good weather, the scenery rich in nature was absolutely stunning, and above all, it was a treasure trove of food!!!! I was moved by all the delicious things!! We Eat! Drink! Learn?! In this newsletter, I'll be sharing our company trip with you.

### A different name?!

Hokkaido was once called Ezochi.

From the Kamakura period through the Edo period, the era of the indigenous Ainu people's unique culture persisted. In 1869, following the end of the Battle of Hakodate, the new government renamed Ezochi as Hokkaido and established the Hokkaido Development Commission. In 1874, the Tondenhei-Seido (屯田兵制度/a system established for the development and security of Hokkaido) was implemented, marking the start of Hokkaido's development. Settlers and immigrants from various parts of Honshu Islands arrived, leading to the growth of agriculture, livestock farming, coal mining, and fishing. Conversely, the population of the Ainu people declined sharply as many of their indigenous customs and cultures were lost due to the Meiji government's development and assimilation policies.

### Travel Itinerary

Day 1 Hakodate – Food Feast

Day 2 Gory kaku & Gory kaku Tower  
~Experience the History~

Day 3 Haristos Orthodox Church & Hakodate Public Hall  
~Touch the History~

Day 4 Sapporo – Another Food Feast  
(Final Day)



## Hakodate

First, we visited the Kanamori Red Brick Warehouses from the Meiji period!

Built in 1909 by businessman Watanabe Kumasaburō, who ran the Kanamori Western Goods Store during the Meiji era, they were originally used as warehouses for imported goods and daily necessities. They later developed alongside the opening of Hakodate Port. Inside the warehouse complex, there were several shops. Among them, I discovered a shop specialising in goods dyed with squid ink caught from the waters near Hakodate. I was utterly captivated by the sepia-toned items displayed throughout the shop. Seizing the opportunity, I bought a T-shirt here! The sea was right before my eyes, the weather was lovely, and it felt absolutely splendid. For a snack at 3 PM, I grabbed a hamburger from 'Lucky Pierrot', a hamburger shop you can only find in Hakodate.

My first rickshaw ride ever! So much fun~



The sea is lovely♡



Absolutely delicious







We had a dinner at Seafood Feast at 'Kaikōbō'. Everything was absolutely delicious! Tomorrow I'll make sure to study some history (lol).



This year again, the president received a matching towel as a gift from her devoted employees.



## Goryōkaku & Goryōkaku Tower

We visited the final place of Hijikata Toshizō, the 'Demon Vice-Commander' of the Shinsengumi who fought passionately through the late Edo period. First, we went to Goryōkaku Tower. From a height of 90 meters, we looked down on Goryōkaku and were overwhelmed by its huge star shape. The views of Mt. Hakodate, the Tsugaru Strait, and the Yokotsu mountain range were also very beautiful.

Goryōkaku was designed by the Dutch scholar Takeda Hisaburō, who referred to Dutch-style fortresses when creating this Western-style stronghold.

During times of war in Europe, many 'fortified cities' were built, surrounding entire towns with walls.

As guns and cannons developed, defenders devised structures to reduce blind spots. In the late Edo period, the Japanese further improved these ideas and constructed Goryōkaku, a star-shaped pentagonal fortress.

Construction began in Ansei 4 (1857) and was completed in Genji 1 (1864). Inside, the 'Hakodate Magistrate's Office', which governed Ezo (Hokkaidō), stood at the centre, along with about twenty attached buildings. It became a base for the Shogunate's northern policies, such as defence of the north, governance and development of Ezo, and negotiations with foreign countries.

Professor Takeda Hisaburō enthusiastically taught specialised knowledge and skills such as Dutch, navigation, surveying, shipbuilding, and chemistry, and fostered leaders who would become the foundation of modern Japan. People of all social classes could be enrolled, and many young men gathered from across the country.

After the collapse of the Edo Shogunate with the Meiji Restoration (1867), it was handed over to the offices of the new government. However, Hijikata Toshizō, Enomoto Takeaki, and others barricaded themselves in Goryōkaku, making it the stage for the Battle of Hakodate, the final resistance of the former Shogunate army.



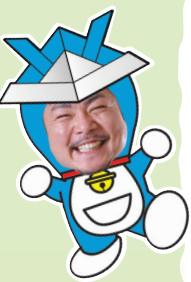
**Hijikata Toshizo** was appointed head of the military and security department, responsible for reorganising the army, and defended from the base at Gory kaku. In urban combat, he adopted guerrilla tactics and won repeated victories through surprise attacks. However, in the end he was struck by a bullet and killed in the fierce battle at the Ippongi Gate, at the age of 34. As the 'Vice-Commander of the Shinsengumi in the late Edo period' and the 'Associate Minister of the Army of the Ezo Government', he continued to fight to the very end as a Samurai. Since he was the only one to fall in battle in the Republic of Japanese Ezo, he is still remembered as 'the last Samurai.'



**Enomoto Takeaki** established the Republic of Ezo and became its president. He engaged the new government's fleet in battles off Muroran and Esashi, but when the state-of-the-art warship Kaiy maru ran aground and sank, he suffered a great loss in naval strength. Although Hijikata and others fought bravely on land, the naval blockade and shortage of supplies put them at a disadvantage. Gory kaku was surrounded, and after surrendering he was taken as a prisoner. Enomoto was later pardoned and went on to serve as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Education, and is remembered as a naval leader and nation-builder.

In Meiji 2 (1869), Gory kaku was surrounded by the new government army and surrendered, leading to the complete dissolution of the former Shogunate forces and the unification of Japan under the Meiji government.

In Meiji 4 (1871), most of the buildings within Gory kaku were dismantled. From Heisei 18 (2006), restoration work began with master carpenters gathered from all over Japan, and in Heisei 22 (2010), the Hakodate Magistrate's Office was reconstructed. We were impressed by the warmth of the wooden structure, the pleasant scent of tatami mats, and the spaciousness of the great hall. Exhibits also clearly explained the purpose of building Gory kaku for protecting the Magistrate's Office, the history of the Battle of Hakodate, and the historical figures involved.



We received a Goshuin (temple seal) dedicated to Hijikata Toshizō



### ★ 'The Million-Dollar Night View' ★ Hakodate Mountain Observatory Edition

During the Meiji period, Mt. Hakodate was fortified for the defence of the Tsugaru Strait. Gun batteries and fortifications were placed on the summit, and ordinary people were not allowed to enter. After the World War II, the mountain was opened to the public and began to attract attention as a tourist destination. In particular, when it was selected as No. 1 in the 'New Japan Top 100 Landscapes' -ranked No. 1 in a famous travel program by Japan's national broadcaster NHK, its popularity exploded. And of course, seeing it with your own eyes is completely different from just looking at photos! It was unbelievably beautiful!!

### The Million-Dollar Night View' Hakodate Mountain Observatory



### ★ 'The Million-Dollar Night View' ★ Hachimanzaka Slope Edition

Hachimanzaka gets its 'Hachiman' name from the Hachiman Shrine that once stood there. From the top of the slope, the road stretches straight down to the sea, and it is said to be the most scenic slope, often appearing in commercials and TV dramas.

I was amazed at how different it looked in the daytime and at night!



### The night at Hachimanzaka Slope



It is said that the road used to curve in the past, but now it is a beautiful straight road leading toward the ocean.