



## 与謝野晶子

Yosano Akiko

Yosano Akiko was a pioneer in the fields of modern literature, modern translation of Japanese classics, social criticism, and education. This museum in her hometown showcases her life and achievements.

Private collection

## A new center that examines Sakai through Rikyu and Akiko

Sakai is blessed with a wealth of historical and cultural heritage handed down through many generations. The city is home to such historical sites as the Mozu Kofun tumulus cluster which contains colossal Nintoku-tenno-ryo Kofun, prestigious Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples and historical townscapes, as well as traditional local industries. Visit the Sakai Plaza of Rikyu and Akiko to learn about Sen no Rikyu and 16th century Sakai, and Yosano Akiko and late 19th-20th century Sakai. Make the Plaza the start of your adventure in this city of history and culture.

### Visitor Information

#### Closed

- Sen no Rikyu Chanoyu Museum, Yosano Akiko Museum, and Chanoyu Experience Rooms: 3rd Tuesday of the month (Next day if 3rd Tuesday is a public holiday) and year-end/New Year period
- Tourist Information Space: Year-end/New Year period
- Parking: None

#### Opening hours

- Sen no Rikyu Chanoyu Museum, Yosano Akiko Museum, and Tourist Information Space: 9:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. (Last admission: 5:30p.m.)
- Chanoyu Experience Rooms: 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. (Last admission: 4:40p.m.)
- Parking: Available 24 hours

#### Admission fees (Adult):

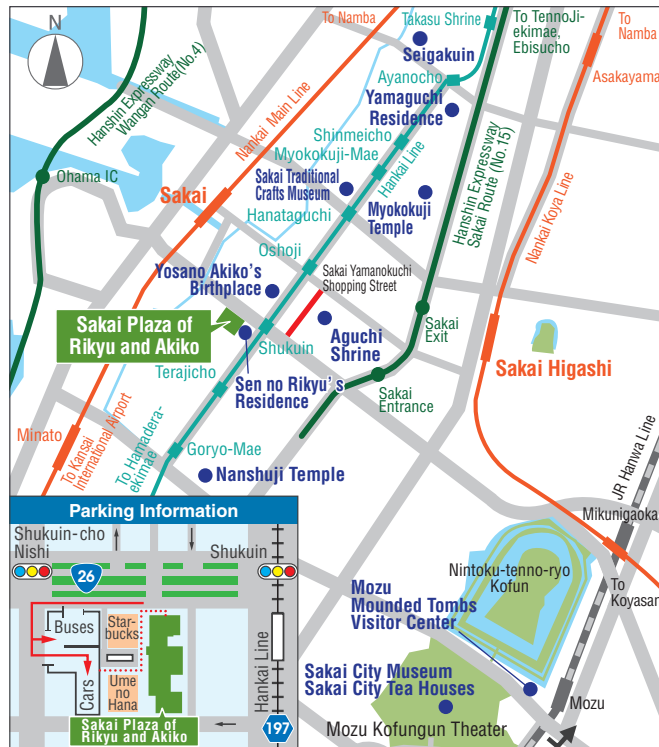
- Admission + Exhibition fee ¥300
- Ryurei Teicha ¥800
- VR experience ¥1,400 (incl. exhibition fee)

#### Parking

- Cars: ¥200/hr. (Max. ¥1,400/day) \*Discount available for visitors to Sakai Plaza of Rikyu and Akiko
- Buses: ¥1,000 /day [Prior reservation required]

#### Transportation access:

- 1 min. on foot from Shukuin Sta., Hankai Line
- Approx. 10 min. walk from Sakai Sta., Nankai Main Line, approx. 3-5 min. by bus (Shukuin Bus Stop)
- Approx. 6 min. by bus from Sakai Higashi Sta., Nankai Koya Line (Shukuin Bus Stop)
- Approx. 10 min. by bus from Mikunigaoka Sta., JR Hanwa Line/Nankai Koya Line (Shukuin Bus Stop)
- Approx. 3 min. by car from Sakai IC of Hanshin Expressway No. 15 Sakai Route
- Approx. 3 min. by car from Ohama IC of Hanshin Expressway No. 4 Wangan Route



#### Contact information

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<https://www.sakai-rishonomori.com>

Sakai Plaza of Rikyu and Akiko

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## 千利休

Sen no Rikyu

Sumiyoshi Sairei-zu Byobu (Sumiyoshi Festival Folding Screen)  
(Right screen depicting Sakai), from the Sakai City Museum collection

Meet the great tea master, Sen no Rikyu, who is credited with perfecting the art of chanoyu tea ceremony (wabicha), and the culture of chanoyu. Learn about the prosperous history of middle ages and early-modern period Sakai, a commercial city then known as the "Japanese Venice."



## Discover the history and culture of Sakai through the stories of a poet and a tea master



Explore the life of Sen no Rikyu and the art of chanoyu tea ceremony from historical and cultural perspectives

## Sen no Rikyu Chanoyu Museum

This museum introduces the relationship between Rikyu and Sakai in the three themed areas of "Sen no Rikyu and the City of Sakai," "Sen no Rikyu and Chanoyu," and "Sen no Rikyu: His Life and Legacy." Learn about the relationship between Rikyu and the city of Sakai and the warlords who coveted the city, as well as the art of chanoyu (wabicha) innovated and cultivated by Rikyu from easy-to-understand displays.



### Rikyu and People Associated with Sakai

During the middle ages and the early modern period, the city of Sakai flourished as a hub of trade and commerce and was ruled by powerful merchants called egoshu. Important characters associated with Sakai and Rikyu are introduced under two themes: "A City of Merchants and Chajin (tea ceremony practitioners)" and "A City Coveted by Warlords."



#### ■ Sakai Tai-an

"Tai-an" located in Myoki-an in Oyamazaki Town, Kyoto Prefecture, is designated a national treasure and is the only remaining chashitsu built by Sen no Rikyu. Sakai Plaza of Rikyu and Akiko have faithfully reproduced this chashitsu in its original state. There is also a reproduction of another chashitsu, the "Rikyu Yojoan Chashitsu" used in the "Kitano O-chanoyu" (Grand Kitano Tea Ceremony). Entry to these tea rooms requires reservations on the day.

### Sakai Depicted in the Sumiyoshi Sairei-zu Byobu (Sumiyoshi Festival Screen)

This is the oldest-known painting of Sakai, depicting a scene of festival parades heading for central Sakai from Sumiyoshi Grand Shrine. It is unique in that it depicts in great detail the scenery of the city of Sakai in the background. Touch the panel screens to read the explanations.



Ceramic wares and tea utensils excavated from the Remains of the Moated City of Sakai are displayed. (Managed by Sakai City, Cultural Assets Department)

In this audio exhibit, Sen no Rikyu talks about his life and Toyotomi Hideyoshi explains his relationship with Rikyu. Sen no Rikyu is played by Kataoka Ainosuke, an actor born in Sakai.

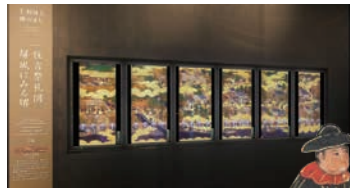
Portrait of warlord Toyotomi Hideyoshi (Sakai City Museum)



#### VR Experience

### "Time Trip Sakai" Combines the Latest VR Technology with a New Sensory Experience

By putting on the VR goggles, you can see a 3D hologram come to life before your eyes, and you will be granted a bird's-eye view of the city of Sakai as it appeared in the 16th century. You can examine the immersive townscape and the lives of the local people from a variety of different angles.



You can find people dressed as Portuguese merchants in the parades. This painting shows evidence of cultural exchange between Sakai and overseas peoples.



#### Reproduction of Rikyu's Chashitsu (alcove sections)

Here, reproductions of two chashitsu (tea rooms) are displayed: the chashitsu at the Rikyu Residence in Imaichi-cho, Sakai City, which was built to emulate the tea room of Takeno Joo, and the chashitsu from the Juraku Residence in Kyoto, where Rikyu spent his final years.



Experience tea ceremony in a genuine chashitsu tea room

## Chanoyu Experience

In the Chanoyu Experience Rooms in front of the Site of Sen no Rikyu's Residence are "Nankai-an," a tea ceremony area where you can sit in a chair and enjoy tea, and several authentic chashitsu (Seiko-ken, Furo-ken, and Tokuchi-ken). Those wishing to try a casual tea ceremony and those wishing to experience authentic chanoyu can enjoy them here. Visit and immerse yourself in the world of chanoyu.

### Chashitsu Tea Ceremony Experience

[Reservation required]

Receive instruction on chanoyu from instructors of one of the three Sen families. Learn chanoyu etiquette including nijiri, seiza, correct tokonoma appreciation, and how to accept the sweets and tea. You can also try mixing the tea for yourself. Conducted in authentic chashitsu and perfect for everyone, from first timers to chanoyu aficionados.

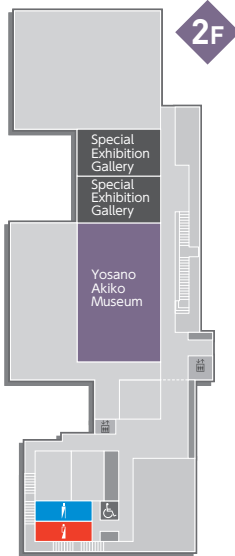


Please note that all tea ceremony workshops include the opportunity to taste a Japanese (unbaked) confectionary produced here in Sakai.

#### Ryurei Teicha

[Reservation required]

At casual "Ryurei" tea ceremonies, held throughout the day, visitors sit on stools while they enjoy matcha and Japanese sweets served in Omotesenke, Urasenke, or Mushakoujisenke style. Groups and individuals welcome.



### Designs of Akiko's Books

Many of Akiko's books were elaborately designed, and the colorful covers have artistic value, heavily influenced by Akiko's husband Hiroshi's idea that they "must be things that can be left for future generations." The covers' designs in particular were often created by eminent artists and are on display here.



The book cover for Midaregami, Akiko's most famous book, is exhibited.

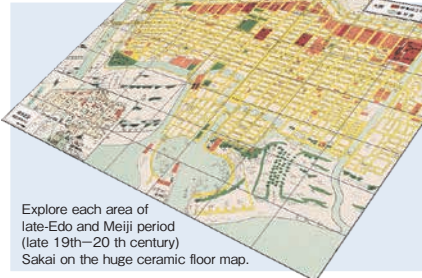
Learn about Akiko's creative world and her life

## Yosano Akiko Museum

This museum introduces Akiko's life and work, both of which were shaped by the turbulence of the Meiji, Taisho and early Showa periods (late 19th–early 20th century) through which she lived and reflected her efforts to challenge the status quo. Her work included the publication of many poetry collections, most notably Midaregami (Tangled Hair), a modern translation of Genji Monogatari (The Tale of Genji), commentaries on contemporary social issues, and involvement in education.

Your Sakai sightseeing adventure starts here!

## Tourist Information Space



Explore each area of late-Edo and Meiji period (late 19th–20th century) Sakai on the huge ceramic floor map.



This area introduces the rich historical and cultural heritage in Sakai and provides a wide range of information on sightseeing in the city. Sightseeing tips and must-see spots are introduced using touch panels and tablets.



A detailed diorama with unique narration depicts the townscape surrounding Shukuin (the location of this museum), which was the central part of the city of Sakai in the early Showa period (late 1920s onwards).

### Akiko's Life with Her Husband, Hiroshi

Akiko had 12 children and lived for 34 years with her husband, Hiroshi, until his death. The relationship between Hiroshi and Akiko was that of teacher and student, and comrades, as well as that of a couple. They recognized each other's talents and remained lovingly bound through unchanging mutual respect and trust.



A number of Akiko's personal effects are on display.

### Akiko's Childhood Home

"Surugaya," the confectionery shop where Akiko was born, was known for its yokan (sweetened bean jelly). The shop building was built in a unique style, mixing both Japanese and Western elements. The second floor of the shop was European in style and had a large clock on the exterior wall. Akiko's childhood is introduced in this reproduction of Surugaya.



Akiko's childhood is introduced with illustrations of a young Akiko drawn by Takehisa Yumeji. Collection of Osaka Prefectural Library, Center for International Children's Literature



#### ■ Special Exhibition Gallery

This gallery is equipped with airtight cases suitable for exhibiting important items, even national treasures. The space will be used for regularly held exhibitions on a wide range of themes.