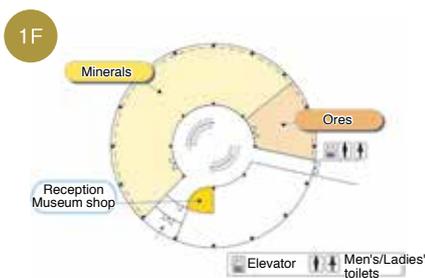


# Mining Museum



The mining museum is a facility attached to the Graduate School of International Resource Sciences for the storage and display of materials and specimens from various fields related to the earth and its resources, that have been collected in the course of the University's research activities. Its history began in the exhibition room of Akita Mining School, which was founded in 1910 to train mining engineers. The mining museum was established when Akita University was inaugurated. A new building was constructed in 1961, and this is the Mining Museum as it stands today. In the public exhibition building, we have minerals and ores of various colors and

shapes on display, as well as rare rocks and fossils. Here you can learn about the history of the earth, resource development and mining technology by observing actual machines and equipment used for mining, along with precision models. In addition, we also introduce the latest research of the University and research results from a wide range of academic fields through limited period special exhibitions, collaborative and partnership exhibitions and public lectures.



Minerals and ores are displayed on the 1st floor. The specimens exhibited here have all been collected by staff, students, alumni and others since the founding of Akita Mining School, or else are the original specimens donated by the many mines operating in Japan when the school was opened. Thanks also to the help of domestic and foreign research institutions and collectors, we have around 2,200 different specimens on display here (500 varieties). These precious specimens from Japan and from overseas are the largest collection of minerals in Japan.



The 2nd floor houses an exhibition of specimens of meteorites, rocks, strata and fossils outlining the composition and history of the Earth. You will see five exhibition areas as you enter: "The Earth: A Member of the Solar System", "Rocks", "Phenomena on the Earth's Surface", "The History of Akita" and "The History of Life". With the help of the many specimens, information panels and tools on display here, we learn what the Earth is made of, what phenomena have occurred, when life began and how it has evolved.



The 3rd floor features an exhibition on "resource development". Because resource development covers such a wide range of technologies, we classify the processing of resources into stages from the exploration for minerals through to the production of metals - "Exploration", "Mining and Extracting Oil", "Beneficiation" and "Smelting". Each stage is explained in a separate exhibition area. We have also set up displays on "Distributing Mineral Resources", "Mine Security Technology", "Natural Energy" "The Mining History of Akita." You can learn all about mining technology and how it has evolved.

## <Visitor information>

- Opening hours: 9:00AM -4:00PM
- Closed: New Year's Holiday (Dec 26 - Jan 5), Sundays and public holidays from December to February.
- Admission: Adult 100 yen. Admission is free for high school students and below.
- Free museum guide: Complimentary museum tours are available, hosted by science volunteers. (Reservation required one week in advance)



You can see inside the museum using Google Street View. This shows you the interior of the exhibition building from 1st floor to 3rd floor through high definition 360 degree panoramic photos. It is accessible from your PC screen or smartphone. Search for "Mining museum" in Google Maps or use this QR code.

