About the Museum

The Japanese Overseas Migration Museum, JICA Yokohama Center opened in 2002 to convey the history of Japanese migration to North America, Latin America, and the Caribbean, among other places, and the daily experiences of their descendants, often called Nikkei. Since the opening, the museum has welcomed more than 600,000 visitors and continues to develop along with the evolving landscape of Yokohama City.

The museum exhibits its collection of historical materials focusing on Japanese migration to North America, including Hawaii, a significant location of the earlier settlements abroad and to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean where JICA has played an important role in supporting Japanese migration after World War II.

In the contemporary world, as the crossing of national borders becomes more common, more people of different backgrounds are living together. In the past, Japanese migrants pioneered in the pursuit of inclusion and sharing prosperity by enhancing mutual cultural respect in their new environment. The descendants of Japanese migrants, the Nikkei, are a significant presence globally. To realize a more inclusive multicultural society, isn’t there much to learn from the pioneers of the past and individuals of the present?

In 2022, the museum renewed part of its permanent exhibition to better depict the past and present of Japanese migrants, the Nikkei, and their communities. The museum continues to improve accessibility by implementing an audio guide, braille blocks, braille captions, and an increased tangible form of display for visitors to enjoy the exhibition.

INFORMATION

Hours 10:00~18:00
Closed
Monday (If a national holiday falls on a Monday, the Museum will be closed on the following day.)
Year-end and New Year’s holidays (December 29 to January 3)
Admission fee Free

Access
Minatomirai (MM) Line
- About an 8-minute walk from Bashamichi (MM04) Station (Exit No. 4)
- About a 15-minute walk from Minatomirai (MM03) Station (Queen’s Square ticket gate)
JR Line/Subway
- About a 15-minute walk from Sakuragichō (K11/B18) Station via Kishamichi Promenade, World Porters and Shinko Circle Walk
- About a 15-minute walk from Kannai (JK10/B17) Station via Bashamichi Shopping Avenue

Japanese Overseas Migration Museum
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Migrants contributed to their host societies in many fields including agriculture and business. Here films on a large screen, material on cultivated agricultural products, photographs of daily lives are mainly exhibited to introduce how migrants lived abroad, new communities formed, and migrant ties to Japan.

The first part of this section depicts the transformations experienced by the migrants and their environments, among other factors, using the Brazilian case as an example. The rest of the section exhibits the diversification of the Nikkei and their communities by showing interviews of Nikkei museum representatives from around the world and leading Nikkei residing in Japan.

The museum is committed to provide accessible and inclusive learning experiences for visitors; equipped with an audio guide, braille blocks, braille captions, and more tactile exhibits.