

Welcome to Hirosaki, a city whose scenic cherry blossoms, historic castle and delicious apples are renowned throughout Japan! Traditional architecture and vibrant culture abound, radiating that uniquely Japanese feeling. What's more, students from around the world come to study at Hirosaki University, and we have plenty of visitors and sightseers from abroad.

Just two minutes' walk from Hirosaki Station you'll find Robbins Nest, a pub (one of very few in Japan) where all--men and women, young and old, from anyplace in the world--are welcome, which of course includes visiting students and sightseers. Great music and drinks know no borders, after all! Come on in and tell us about your home. The Nest is a popular meetup spot on weekdays, and hosts all kinds of events and live music on the weekends. Plus, we're open all year round.

## ANY TROUBLE? COME TO **ROBBIN'S NEST**

No matter how long you're in town, if there's anything giving you a hard time, come talk to us at the Nest. We're happy to help in any way possible.

We're open all throughout the year, so stop by anytime!

If you come inside and don't find anyone from your home country, don't worry--our staff all can speak English, so feel free to strike up a conversation. Ask about Hirosaki, about Japan, about anything you want to know. We'll be happy to help in any way we can!

The Japanese people sitting by you might just be interested in what you have to say, too. If you feel like making Japanese friends, we bet they'd be happy to teach you a little Japanese too.

We've had foreign customers from all sorts of countries and all walks of life. Many come to cultural exchange events at the Nest, or put on concerts, or come traveling or have a barbecue with us. We'd love to help you enjoy your time in Japan as much as possible.

Thank you for coming to Hirosaki !

Address	1- 3-16 OMACHI, HIROSAKI
E-Mail	shoichi.narita@gmail.com
Phone	090-6450-1730
Web	<a href="http://robbins-nest.jp">http://robbins-nest.jp</a>
Open	7 days a week. 17:00-

cash on style, without a table charge

# MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR STAY IN **HIROSAKI**



PUB / LIVE MUSIC / RENTAL STUDIO

**ROBBIN'S NEST**

English Available

The first thing any visitor to Hirosaki should see is, of course, the castle. In its beautiful, expansive grounds and surroundings, you'll find architecture hearkening back to the days of the samurai--a thrill simply to walk around and explore.

By the northeast corner of the castle park, you'll find Neputa Village (*Neputa-mura*), a compact semi-museum dedicated to the floats and tradition of August's weeklong Neputa festival. On the southern end of the park, near City Hall, the Fujita Memorial Gardens (closed late November through mid-April) showcase a beautiful Japanese landscape garden, as well as a tearoom from the Taisho era in the early 20th century and a small archeology museum.

A few minutes' walk south of the temple, the *Zenringai* district houses a cluster of Zen Buddhist temples; to the east, near Hirosaki High School, the *Shin-Teramachi* area houses slightly more recent Nichiren Buddhist temples. Just slightly further east, and visible from a good ways around, is the five-storied pagoda at *Saisho-in* Monastery, completed in 1667.

Beautiful and imposing, Mt. Iwaki is a half hour or so by car or bus outside of central Hirosaki to the west. It houses a few ski slopes (such as Naqua Shirakami or Hyakuzawa) for the winter, and the Iwakiyama Shrine at its southern base is well worth a trip.

If you're all done sightseeing for the day, downtown Hirosaki is full of places to eat, shop, and relax. A spacious brick path, with fountains and benches in warm weather and colorful lights in the winter, reaches from the lively station-front (*ekimae*) area up toward Dotemachi street, which is full of cafes and small shops, all with their own personality. Close by, the Kajimachi district--easily findable by the Asahi Bowl building and its massive bowling pin top--offers a range of bars, restaurants and small clubs that come alive at night.

# HIROSAKI HIGHLIGHTS

