

An information Magazine for the International Community in Kochi

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Kochi is a land of forests and mountains where precious nature and culture is still intact. Japan's first forest environment tax was introduced in Kochi in 2003, and artificial forests are periodically thinned out in order to stop the destruction of forestland while efforts are being made to preserve rare species of wild flora from being eaten by wild animals such as deer. In this issue, to understand in depth about Kochi Prefecture's mountains and "satoyama" or domestic

The prefecture with the highest forest area in Japan at 84 % ...Kochi!!

森林面積が84%で日本一の県 といえば?? "高知県"

きる甫喜ヶ峰森林公園と日高村に行ってきました。

woodland, we went to Hokigamine Forest Park and Hidaka Village, where you can try out forest and domestic woodland activity experiences.

Let's Learn about Kochi's Forestry Industry

For this issue we went to the Hokigamine Forest Park in Kami City, which was established in 1978, and consists of 102 hectors of mountain maintained by the Prefectural Government. Our guide was Shinji Hirako, the chairman of HIRAKO Lab. He left his work in the mass media six years ago, spurred on by his interest of "What can I do to protect the forest?" and is now involved in work including public awareness and forest environment education to "Protect and have others learn about the forest".

We asked about the current situation of Kochi's 太陽の名 mountains; "man-made forests are known by this term because they are formed by planting trees by hand, and mountains like this makeup 27% of the national land area. In Kochi, Japanese Cedar and Japanese Cypress makeup over 60% of Kochi's forests."

In regards to man-made forests, he said "After the Second World War, the trees in these man-made forests were planted as a national policy. However the trees couldn't be used for timber for buildings until 40-50 years had passed, which meant that reconstruction after the war was carried out using cheap timber from abroad. As a result of the free movement of imported timber, the demand for overseas timber greatly increased, causing prices in timber from Japan to slump. Many forest workers who owned mountain forests had to abandon them due to reasons including not being able to make a profit despite cutting down their trees, and not having a successor. This had a devastating effect on the economics of the Japanese forestry industry."

Striving for a Healthy Forest

Generally speaking, mountain trees absorb carbon dioxide, and store carbon inside of them. For this, nurturing one tree to grow larger and to increase its storage capacity is more important than having a large number of trees. Larger trees mean an increase in the amount of carbon dioxide stored.

However, the trees in man-made forests are planted very

高知県の林業を知る!!



In the dark forest which blocks out the sun's light

太陽の光を遮る暗い森の中

今回は、昭和53年に県有林102へクタールの山を整備してできた香美市にある高知りの山を整備してできた香美市にある高知りの山を整備したできた『山かけました。今り治さん。本学を作るために何ができるのか」というこ本ができるのか」ということに関心を持ったことがきっかけて、マッスを開発の仕事から6年前に転職し、「森を受べるとり、「森を知らればいる」という普及を知ってもらう。」という普及を到る。森林環境教育などをしています。

人工林について、「第二次世界大戦後に国策として木々を植えたのがこの人工林たち。だが、木が植えられて40~50年は経たないと建築用材として使えないため、戦後復興に使用されたのが、海外からの安価な木材。木が輸入の自由化による外材需要のが、海外からの安価な木材。木材輸入の自由化による外材需要の増大などにより、国産の木材の価格は低迷し、山林を所有する林業で事者の多くは、木を伐っても採算が取れない、後継者がいなる。と話してくれました。と話してくれました。

健康な森を考える

いっぽんできた。 やまの木をは二酸化炭素を吸収し、木の中で炭素の直でをしています。 それには、木がたくさんあるというよりは、一番の木が大きく育っていくことで体積が増えることが重要であり、それによって二酸化炭素の固定量が上がっていきます。

いっぽう しょくりん もり きぎ あっと たか けんぜん せいちょう きまた 一方、植林された森は木々の密度が高く、健全な成長の妨げと

closely together, which obstructs healthy growth. To grow healthy and thick trees, periodic tree thinning is necessary. If this is carried out, space is made between trees, which allows the foliage to spread further and for them to be nurtured healthily. The absorption and storage of carbon dioxide is also connected to the prevention of global warming. Furthermore, if the sunlight can enter, the forest gets brighter, grass and shrubs can grow in the earth, and living creatures can increase. This therefore, helps it to become a thriving biodiverse forest.

Trying out Forest Thinning for Ourselves!

Many people think that forests are dark places. I am one of those people, and that forest was indeed dark! The landscape was as one would expect. We were told "Right, let's go to the forest! Please choose which tree you would like to fell!" "We will chop down a thin tree, let's leave the thicker trees" we said. But on hearing our choice Hirako explained to us, "you can't just fell a tree based on whether it is thin or bent. You have to think how you will nurture and use them in the future and choose which trees you want to remain". This was clearly a difficult task for beginners.

After choosing a tree, you have to decide the direction in which you want to fell it. Then you make the directional notch cut- a horizontal cut made at an angle of 30-45 degrees. Next, on the opposite side, you decide the felling cut. Part way through cutting this, the weight of the tree caused it to fall over to the side of the directional notch. The holding wood, which runs throughout the tree made a creaking noise, split, and then that fell too. The felling cut was damp and the aroma of fresh tree came from the 40 year old cedar.

*Regardless of whether the mountain trees are owned privately or by the government, you are

required to submit a request to the local municipality before felling one. On the day we went, we received permission from the forest park staff before going tree thinning.

Making a Spoon out of Japanese Cypress!

We had thought that we would use the cedar that we had just felled to experience making some type of craft. However, so that we could use dry timber, we used the Japanese cypress that Mr. Hirako had prepared for us. We received the timber which had already been roughly made into a spoon shape, and used sandpaper to make it into the shape we wanted. While trying to focus on the shape, and making the spoon itself, a whole hour and a half passed, and before I knew it the spoon was finished.

Going into the forest it had been dark, however after felling the tree, I looked up and saw the vast blue sky. Alongside the exhilarating feeling when I cut the tree, I felt that I had contributed to keeping the forest healthy. In addition, thinking of

If you are interested in experiencing tree felling, environmental education (nature games etc.), or craft games, then please enquire directly at Hokigamine Forest Park.

forestry as an outdoor activity was new for me.

OHokigamine Forest Park

Location: Tosayamada-cho Hirayama, Kami City TEL: 0887-57-9007 Open times: 9:00-16:30

なっています。健康で太い木々を作っていくために必要なもの が、間伐です。間伐をすると、木と木の間が空いてくるので、枝 葉を広げることができ健全に育ってゆきます。二酸化炭素の吸収 と固定により温暖化防止にもつながります。また太陽の光が入る ことで森の中が明るくなり、地面も草や低木が育つようになり生 き物がそこにやってきます。それこそが、生物多様性に富んだ森 づくりといえます。

では、実際に、間伐体験!!!



Forest thinning experience (1): making the felling cut!

がんぱつたいけん 間伐体験①:追口を入れています!



Forest thinning experience (2): the beautiful sky that became visible after cutting down a tree

かんぱつだいけん かんぱつご きれい あおぞら 間伐体験②:間伐後の綺麗な青空

森は暗い!というイメージを持っている人も 動かと思います。私もその一人であり、その森 もそうでした。当たり前の風景です。「さて、 た。 森へ行こう!どの木を伐るのかを選んでくださ い。」という問いに、「太い木を残して、細い木 を伐る。」と私たちは答えました。平子さんは、 木の選び方は、「ただ細いとか曲がっているか ら伐るというのではなく、木をどのように育て、 将来どのように使うかを考えて、残す木を選 ぶ。」と説明してくれた。初心者には難しいと ょっかん 実感しました。

た。 木を選んだら、木を倒す方向を決め、受口と いう斜め30~45度と水平の切れ削を入れます。 っダに、その反対側から追口という切れ込みを入 れている途中に木の重みで受口側に、ツルとい うつなぎ部分が、メキメキと音を立てて裂けて 対していきました。 切り口がみずみずしい、木 の新鮮な香りがする40年生のスギの木でした。 ※当の木は、私有地、国有地関係なく事前の市

前村への届け出なくては依ることができません。この日は、森林 ^{こうえん かた きょか} 公園の方に許可をもらい間伐体験をしました。

ヒノキのスプーンづくり体験!!

Making a spoon out of Japanese Cypress

ヒノキのスプーン作り体験

また。 かんぱつ たいけん 先ほど間伐したスギの木を使用してクラフト体験 をすると思っていましたが、ここでは、乾燥した木 ずい しょう 材を使用するため、平子さんが準備してくれたヒノ キを使用しました。ある程度スプーンの形に出来上 がっている材料を、各自サンドペーパーを使って好 きな形に削ってきました。どんな形にしようかと集 ずしスプーンと向き合っている間に1時間半が過 ぎ、スプーン作りはあっという間に終了しました。

まり、ぱいっときゃくら 森に入った時、暗かった世界が、間伐をした後見上げると青い でいたがっていました。木を切った時の爽快感とともに森林の健

ピラ ピラ ピム 康に貢献できたと感じました。アウトドア活動の一 つに林業体験を入れるのもまた新しいと思いました。 がはいたいけん かんきこうきょういく 間伐体験、環境教育(ネイチャーゲームなど)、 クラフト体験をしたい方は、甫喜ヶ峰森林公園に直 せっしょ 接お問い合わせください。



Shinji Hirako, the chairman of HIRAKO lab

HIRAKO lab主宰の平子真治さん

□ ま が みねしんりんこうえん □ **古室ヶ峰森林公園**

場所:香美市土佐山田町平山 TEL:0887-57-9007 ご利用時間:午前9時~午後4時30分

Cycling Around the Mountain Villages

Domestic woodland areas are located near to settlements, and thus indicate a deep connection to the humans around them. These communities would open up areas of the original woodland, which was formally used for firewood and the gathering of edible wild plants, and gradually changed it so that it became easier for people to use, such as through the replanting of trees to replace those cut for use in everyday life. The land around the domestic woodland areas is maintained, and used for rice fields, other crops and irrigation. As a result, insects and small animals gather, and an ecosystem is created that is shared with the community.

Bicycles rented? Check. Let's go!

We rented bicycles with gears from "Muranoeki Hidaka"; a place that houses a cafe, fresh vegetables brought there directly by farmers, and a tourist information spot. Once we did the safety check of seeing if the brakes were working and whether the saddle was at a comfortable height, it was time to depart! This cycling course around the villages is a 15km "Satoyama Course" with its start and end point being "Muranoeki Hidaka".

Most parts of the cycling course had wide roads, with only one portion that had ups and downs, so even cycling beginners like us were able to handle it. One of the benefits to cycling is how we could cycle at our own pace while looking at the thinly covered mountains of red leaves and wild plants along the roadside. It was also fun to strike up a conversation with people we met while cycling.

Recommended little detours!

Omura Shrine

This shrine has a history of over 1400 years, having been established in the year 586. After we passed through the torii gate, the solemn atmosphere of a straight road of about 200m that leads to the shrine caused us to stand straight in respect. Around the back, a huge botan cedar tree said to be over a thousand years old looms over the main building of the shrine, as if to watch over it. There is a legend saying that during disasters such as flooding and earthquakes, the trunk of the tree would light up. Thus, as a sacred tree, great care has been taken to keep it standing. It is now a popular power spot (i.e. a place with great spiritual energy) for money and relationship wishes.

Legend says that ninja Mohei KUSAKA has trained in this limestone cave. It is pitch dark and cool inside. You will be able to depart for a thrilling exploration here. However, there is no light in the cave, so ensure that you have your helmet, light, boots, and such equipped on you before heading in.

To stop preventable disasters from happening, it is necessary that you call the Hidaka Village Board of Education at 0889-24-5115 before entering the cave. If you feel insecure about exploring on your own, it is safer to request for a guide from the "Muranoeki Hidaka" for a fee!

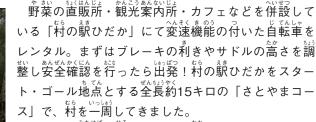
Lunch at "Omurice Road"!

Hidaka village is surrounded by mountains, with a huge temperature difference between day and night. This allows the village to grow their local speciality; tomatoes. By putting the unique climate to good use, Hidaka village repeatedly researched into cultivation, and produced "sugar tomatoes"

日高村の里山をぐるっとサイクリング

まず、というなが、かってはます。原生林を切り開き、生活に必要な木に植え替えるなどの人々が利用しやすいように変えていき、かつては薪や山菜の採取などに利用されていました。適度に手入れされている里山の周辺には田や畑、用水地が作られることで、昆虫や小動物が集まってたと、まませ、よりまいが、はなどのようにないます。

ic てんしゃ か 自転車を借りてレッツゴー!



コースは道幅が広いところが多く、またアップダウンがある箇所は一部なので、サイクリング初心者の私意なのでも取り組むことができました。うっすらと紅葉した山や沿道に自生する植物を観察しながら自分たちのペースでゆっくり楽しめるのがサイクリングの魅力

です。沿道で出会った人たちとおしゃべりをするのも楽しい♪



行く

おすすめの寄り道スポットを紹介!

○小村神社

この神社は586年に創建され、その歴史は1400年以上にもな

ります。鳥居をくぐった後、200メートルほどまっすまでと伸びる参道に背筋がピンと伸びました。社殿を見なりまするかのように背後にそびえ立つ大木は樹齢1000年を超えると伝わる杉(牡丹杉)です。かつて、川のが北京圏や大地震など有事の際には木の幹に光が灯まったという伝説から、神木として大切に残され、今ではまる通や恋愛運を上げるパワースポットとしても人気。



窓よるの旨か茂平が修行したという言い伝えがある 右灰洞で、中は真っ暗、ひんやりとした空気感でした。ここではスリル満点の探検ができます。ただし洞内は明かりがないので、必ずヘルメット、ライト、援戦等をご自身で装備し挑んでください。

また入洞する際は遭難防止のため、事前に日高村教育委員会(0889-24-5115)に電話が必要です。もし自分たちだけでの探検が不安な方は、事前に村の駅ひだかにてガイド(有料)の手配をお願いするのが安全ですね!



Omura shrine with botan cedar tree

小村神社とその後ろの牡丹杉



Saruta cave's pitch darkness was impactful 議論詞の節は真っ暗で趋力満点



Fluffy omelette atop the rice! Such bliss!

ふわふわのオムレツが乗ったオ ムライス!幸せ!

ランチは「オムライス街道」で!

that are extremely sweet. The omurice road centers around the Japan National Route 33, with approximately ten restaurants selling omurice. We charged up our energy for our cycling in the afternoon, with the fluffy omurice dishes. A special note about the eateries on the omurice road, is that they make use of Hidaka village's tomatoes and "sugar tomatoes" and also do their best to include other vegetables that are grown locally.

OFor Rental Bicycle Inquiries

Muranoeki Hidaka 1478-9 Hongo, Hidaka Village, Takaoka-gun TEL: 0889-24-5888

Rental Fee (including helmet): 500 yen *not charged by the hour

Operating Hours: 9:00-17:00 (last rental by 15:00)

Map of the cycling courses is available.

OFor Cycling Course Inquiries

Hidaka Village Office Industry Environment Division

TEL: 0889-24-4647

中心に、約10店舗ほどのレストランがオムライスを提供しており、私たちもランチにふわふわのオムライスを食べ、午後からのサイクリングに向けてエネルギーを蓄えました。どのお店もオムライスに日高村産トマト・シュガートマトを使い、トマト以外の野菜もできるだけ地場産品を使っているこだわりです。

○首転車の貸出について問い合わせ

村の駅ひだか 高岡郡日高村本郷1478-9 TEL: 0889-24-5888 レンタル料金(ヘルメット代込み): 500円 *時間の制限なし利用時間: 9:00-17:00 (受付は15時まで)サイクリングコースの地図の用意があります。

○サイクリングコースについて簡い合わせ

ひ だかむらやく ぽ さんをおうかんをよう か 日高村役場 産業環境課 TEL: 0889-24-4647

Kochi Lifestyle Q&A: Winter in Kochi is colder than you'd expect. Other than turning on the heater, what are some ways to keep warm?

こうち せいかつ こうち ふゆ いがい さむ だんぼういがい す ほうほう おし 高知の生活Q&A「高知の冬は意外と寒い。暖房以外であたたかく過ごす方法を教えて!」

Kochi is called "Tropical Tosa" but can be surprisingly cold in the winter. The temperature can fall below 0°C in January and February. Here are some tips from the KIA staff members in order to stay warm this winter.

O Yutampo (hot water bottle)

Add hot water to a container meant to be used as a hot water bottle, and put it under the blankets to warm them up before sleeping, or place it on your back or on your knees to keep warm. Metal hot water bottles were common in the past, but now there are bottles made from soft resin, which can be purchased for around \(\frac{1}{2}\)1000.

They stay warm for longer than you might expect, so please avoid moderate-temperature burns by putting on a cover.

O Nabe (hot pot)

Stay warm with food! We will introduce two types of hot pot which will keep your body toasty. There is no set rule for the contents of the hot pot, but here is an example.

·Kimchi Nabe

- 1. Boil water in a pot, and add Kimchi Nabe soup base. (No need to add water to the un-concentrated type which you can use as it is.)
- 2. Add vegetables of your choice (Napa cabbage, long green onion, shimeji mushroom, leeks), kimchi, tofu, pork belly meat (or seafood such as shrimp or scallops).
- 3. At the end, we recommend making a kind of risotto by adding white rice, or cook together with ramen or udon.
- Mizutaki (chicken hot pot)
- 1. Boil water and konbu (seaweed) in a pot. Take out the konbu after boiling for about 20 minutes.
- 2. Add vegetables of your choice (Napa cabbage, mizuna, carrots, long green onion, shimeji mushrooms, ginger), tofu, and chicken.
- 3. After the ingredients are cooked, eat with ponzu or sesame sauce.
- 4. At the end, we recommend making a kind of risotto by adding beaten egg, chopped green onions, and white rice.

Shouga-yu (ginger tea)

Kochi is famous throughout Japan for producing the most ginger in the country. In a mug, add honey and peeled and grated ginger. Add lemon if you'd like. You will feel warm from the inside out. It also works wonders on sore throats.

Please keep warm and stay healthy this winter!

「南国土佐」と言われる高丸ですが、冬は意外と寒く1月~2月は気温が0℃以下になることもあります。KIAスタッフおすすめの、冬をあたたかく過ごす生活のヒントを紹介します。

○ 湯たんぽ

湯たんぽ専用の容器にお湯を注いで、寝る前に布団の中に入れて布団を温めたり、座るときに腰の後ろや膝の上に置いたりして暖をとります。皆は金属でできた湯たんぽが通常でしたが、最近はやわらかい樹脂でできたものもあり、1,000円くらいから購入できます。

温かさが想像よりを長く持続すると思いますので、カバーをつけるなどして低温やけどには気を付けてください。

新

やっぱり温かさは食べ物から!棒がポカポカ温まる鍋を2種類紹介します。鍋に入れる具材に特に決まりはないですが、一例です。

・キムチ鑚

- 1. 鍋に水を入れて沸かしたらキムチ鍋の素を入れる。(濃縮されていないストレートタイプのスープは水を加える必要はありません)
- 2. 好きな野菜(白菜・ねぎ・しめじ・ニラなど)、キムチ、豆腐、 kkバラ肉(またはエビやホタテなどの魚介類)を加える。
- 3. 最後は、白ご飯を入れて雑炊にしたり、うどんやラーメンを入れて煮込んだりするのがおすすめ。

・水炊き

- 1. 鍋に水と出汁用の昆布を入れ火にかける。20分ほど煮出したら昆布を取り出す。
- 2. 好きな野菜(白菜・水菜・人参・ねぎ・しめじ・生姜)と豆腐、鶏肉を入れる。
- 3. 具材に火が通ったらポン酢やゴマだれにつけて食べる。
- 4. 最後は溶き卵・小口切りにしたねぎ・白ご飯を加え雑炊にするのがおすすめ。

○生姜湯

高知は生姜の生産量が最も多いことで全国的に有名です。マグカップに、ためをいてすりおろした生姜と、はちみつを入れます。そこにお湯を注いで混ぜたらできあがり。お好みでレモン汁を加えます。飲むと体の芯からポカポカと温まります。のどの痛みにもよく効きます。

今年の冬も身体を温めながら元気に過ごしましょう!

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TosaWave ブログ:http://tosawave.blogspot.com/(カラー写真をご覧いただけます)