

See, Feel, and Enjoy the West Coast of Lake Shinji!

Gobius & the Surrounding Area

The western coast of Lake Shinji offers plenty of opportunities to see and experience local wildlife and the natural environment. Be sure not to let the fun stop at Gobius!



Picnic Area - Multi-purpose Center

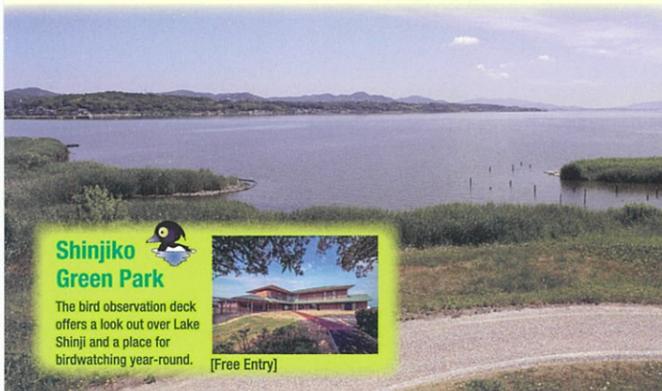


Shinjiko Park Multi-purpose Center
A place to rest or eat lunch even on rainy days.

Spend time outside!
The front lawn also serves as a picnic area for outdoor lunches. Why not relax outside when the weather is nice?

Visit the coast of Lake Shinji!

It is only a short walk from Gobius to Lake Shinji. Right next to Gobius, and even closer to the lake, is the Shinjiko Green Park.



Shinjiko Green Park

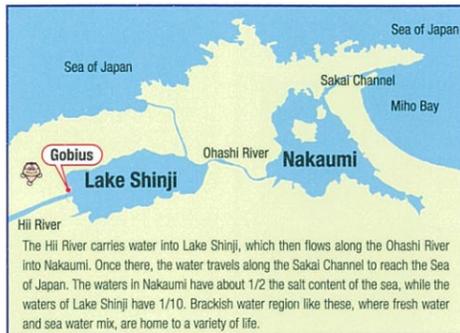
The bird observation deck offers a look out over Lake Shinji and a place for birdwatching year-round. [Free Entry]

Oceans, Lakes, & Rivers - A Fresh Water and Brackish Water Experiential Learning Aquarium

Lake Shinji and Nakaumi are both bodies of brackish water on the Hii River system where sea water from the ocean mixes with fresh water. Both are also wetlands registered as part of the Ramsar Convention. However, each body of water has different salinity and a unique ecosystem. Gobius makes use of these local environments in its exhibits.

The abundant fresh waters of Shimane Prefecture's rivers and ponds are another of the aquarium's key themes. With a focus on these two water types, Gobius strives to teach both about the natural life of the region and the importance of preserving our natural environment.

Nakaumi is the 5th largest lake in Japan, and Lake Shinji is the 7th. Together they make up the country's largest brackish water region!



Learn and Get to Know the Natural World of Lake Shinji and Nakaumi!

Lake Shinji (Shinji-ko) and Nakaumi were registered as wetlands under the Ramsar Convention on November 8th, 2005. We must now seek out ways to preserve the natural environment of these bodies of water and find sensible methods of symbiosis in order to pass these important lakes on to future generations.

Why not start by learning about the wildlife here at Gobius?



The Ramsar Convention

Known officially as the "Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat," this treaty was put into effect after a convention in Ramsar, Iran in 1971. Wetlands are homes to a variety of wildlife, including fish, shellfish, and birds. They also supply us with various forms of fisheries and recreational activities.

However, wetlands are also highly susceptible to human interference.

The convention in Ramsar was convened to foster international cooperation in preserving these areas which are of such great importance to both humans and wildlife alike.

Opening Hours

9:30 - 17:00 (Last Entry: 16:30)

Closed

Tuesdays & Dec 28 - Dec 31

(Closed on the following weekday after holidays which land on Tuesdays)
*May be temporarily opened during summer or the New Year's season.

Admission

Ticket Type	Individuals	Groups (of 20 or more)
Adult / University Students	500 yen	400 yen
Elementary / Junior High / High School Students	200 yen	160 yen
Young Children (Pre-elementary school)	Free	Not included in group counts.

*An exemption system is in place for visits as part of Pre-school/Day Care, Elementary School, Junior High and High School educational activities. A separate application must be submitted for exemption. Please contact us for more information.

*Present your physical disability certificate, mental disability certificate, or nursing certificate, for half-off admission and free entry for one caregiver.

Join special pass-holder events

Annual Passes

Annual passes allow for unlimited entry for 1 year from the date of purchase.

Ticket Type	Individuals	Family Discount*
Adult / University Students	1,400 yen	1,120 yen
Elementary / Junior High / High School Students	500 yen	400 yen

*Family members who live together can receive 20% off their annual passes when purchased together. Offer cannot be combined with other discounts.

Access



15 min by car from San-in Expressway "Shinji I.C."
10 min by car from Izumo Airport
10 min walk from Ichibata Electric "Koyukan-Shineki Station"



Shimane Prefectural Shinjiko Nature Museum Gobius

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<https://www.gobius.jp/> E-mail:gobius@gobius.jp

Animal handling business information: Name / Hoshizaki Green Foundation
Name of business establishment / Shimane Prefectural Shinjiko Nature Museum Type of animal handling business / Exhibition
Registration number / 073102040 Registration date / May 17th, 2007 Expiration date / May 16th, 2022
Animal handling manager / Hiroshi Nakano Designated manager: Hoshizaki Green Foundation Issue 202504

Fresh Water & Brackish Water Aquarium

Shimane Prefectural Shinjiko Nature Museum

Gobius



Ikefish (*Salangichthys microdon*)

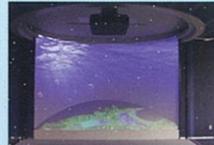


Explore the waterfronts of Shimane at Gobius!

Encounter 10 thousand creatures of 200 species



Right inside stands a large, round aquarium. This is the start of your journey along Shimane's waterfronts.



3D models and videos at the entrance will teach you about geography and wildlife!



You might find turtles sunbathing out in the courtyard pond.



This corridor leads to the rest of the aquarium. Take a look at the pond outside and you will see Japanese turtles and freshwater fish. Take a peek through the round windows on the floor and you can even see them swimming around!

Brackish Water Wildlife

A special type of waterway where saltwater and freshwater species live side-by-side. What sorts of wildlife will you find?



Lake Shinji & Nakaumi Diorama Aquarium
An impressive diorama which recreates both Lake Shinji and Nakaumi.



Dome Aquarium
Poke your head under one of the dome windows to get a diver's view of the aquarium.



"Gobius" is a Latin word for small fish like gobies. It's also used in part of their scientific names. There are tanks that feature the various Gobiiformes that live in Lake Shinji and Nakaumi.



Icefish Aquarium

Raising delicate icefish is quite difficult, and Gobius is the only aquarium that features them in a year-round exhibit. No matter when you visit, you can enjoy watching schools of icefish glimmer as they swim through the lit-up tank. Watch videos on how they are fed and how they grow and learn everything there is to know about icefish right here.

Icefish
These fish have a lifespan of around just 1 year. You will find different sizes at different times of year.



Japanese sting ray



Flathead grey mullet

Brackish Water Species



Shinjiko goby



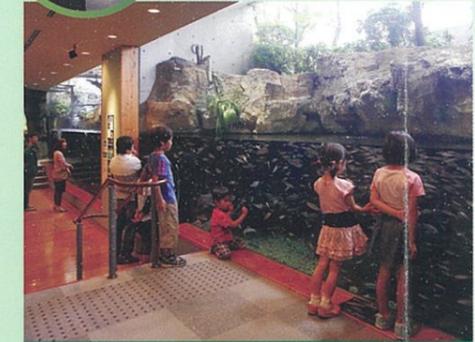
Spotnape ponyfish



Freshwater prawn

River Wildlife

Take a look at the wildlife that lives in rivers, ponds, and rice paddies, and learn about their habitats.



Waterway Diorama Tank
Spanning 18 meters in length, this tank recreates the up-stream, mid-stream, and down-stream regions of Shimane's rivers.

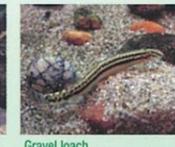
Freshwater Species



Spotted head charr



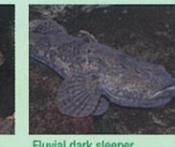
Southern red tabira bitterling



Gravel loach



Japanese aucha perch



Fluvial dark sleeper



Species on the Red Data Book
Features local Shimane wildlife that is currently endangered.



Japanese threespine stickleback
The males change into beautiful colors in early spring! You might just catch a glimpse of the parents guarding their eggs and young.



Japanese Giant Salamander Tank
Known also as "hanzake" in the Chugoku region, these salamanders are a special natural monument of Japan.



Japanese giant salamander
Once each year these Japanese giant salamanders get measured.

Gobius Facility Map



Museum Shop
Offers publications on the exhibits and original merchandise

Tank Numbers
The permanent tanks are designated by number. Blue numbers are for brackish water and green numbers are for freshwater tanks.

• Entrance and exit are in separate locations. Entry is not permitted from the exit. Those who wish to re-enter the facility must show their same-day pass at the reception desk.
• Information shown in this pamphlet and the exhibits on display may be changed, such as with the seasons, without prior notice.

Every Saturday, Sunday, and Holiday!

Aquarium Keeper Talk 13:30 ~ Approx. 15 min
Aquarium keepers give mini-talks on creature's secrets at Gobius.

Fishy Feeding Time! 15:00 ~
Watch the fish feast as the aquarium keepers tell you all about them. Announcements are made each day to tell you which tanks will be featured.

Events may be cancelled without prior warning. Please make note of the following in advance.

Play & Learn Plaza

Have fun learning about all sorts of wildlife at the Special Exhibits and Hands-on Pool.

Hands-on Pool
Take a nice long look at all the wildlife that lives in this 3-level tank. Crawl under the tallest level to get a view from below, and get hands-on with the wildlife that lives in the middle and lower levels in this large pool.

Special Exhibit Area
This Play & Learn Plaza features a special exhibit area. 3 special exhibits are held each year in spring, summer, and winter. These exhibits feature wildlife not commonly seen. Even when these exhibits are not underway, there are a number of event exhibits and child-focused exhibits during the year. Be sure to check them out!

Learning Station
Aquarium Keeper Chats are held on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

Giant water bug

Black-spotted pond frog

Japanese tree frog

Check out our water purification experiment using Lake Shinji's own Japanese basket clams.

From the Rivers to Lake Shinji, From Nakaumi to the Sea - Getting ready for the field -

This is the last major tank on your trip through Shimane's waterways. Take note of the large fish swimming leisurely and head out to enjoy your time in the field.

Japanese seabass

Carp