

## Cグループ：湯ノ湖エリア

### 〈メンバー紹介〉

ネイチャーガイド	安倍 輝行	日本
宇都宮大学学生（リーダー＊）	ヘン シータイ	カンボジア
	ラトウ	中国
	*ノピラ ピッサパー	タイ
	カ ril ラ イブラヒム	バングラデシュ
	イエン チャン エーン	カンボジア
	石原 宇法	マレーシア（日本）
宇都宮大学	湯澤 伸夫（教員）	日本
	Carl SALK（CMP S 研究員）	スウェーデン
国際交流協会	山田 功	日本
	石川 茂	日本
	福地悠里子（NC I A 事務局）	日本

### 〈コース紹介〉

湯元北駐車場	
湯元温泉寺	
源泉	ガイドウォーク①
温泉神社	湯元観光／湯元温泉街の歴史／湯元地域の利用形態
おおりり山荘前園地	
兎島南入江	
湯元レストハウス	
白根沢橋	ガイドウォーク②
下水処理場	湖周辺の自然環境／コカナダモ／水質改善／シカの増加
湯元スキー場	
湯元北駐車場	

## 〈フィールドワークレポート〉

ヘン シータイ  
ノ ピラ ピッサパー  
イエン チャン エーン

ラトウ  
カリル ラ イブラヒム  
石原 宇法

### Introduction

On 13th November, 38 international students and lecturers went for a field work to Nikko with an aim to visit the distinctive mystical atmosphere such as sightseeing spots with vast and rich nature, historical shine and temple. Students were divided into 3 groups of 6 or 7 people to visit different places around Oku-Nikko area. After the field work students were request to make a group presentation toward the topic “How to make it a more attractive tourist destination while preserving the rice nature of Nikko”.

### Field Work Objective

The objective of the field work was to demand the outdoors tourism that has decreased due to the corona virus, which to focused on experience-based outdoor and nature. Also, to learn about the rich nature, environment problems and how to protect them. All of the information was provided by local tour guide. It was a new kind of tourist places that is a bit different from conventional tourism places. Last but not least to consider the creation of tourist destinations from an international perspective and make recommendation at the symposium.

### Field Work Visited Places

**Onsenji-temple** is located in Oku-Nikko, beside Yunoko Lake, there is a Buddhist shrine dedicated to the hot spring. This temple has a long and illustrious history, having been unearthed in the 9th century. Onsen-Buddha Ji's statue has its foundation at the end of the mountain (Onsen-ga-take). In 1966, the temple was destroyed by a storm. In addition, the Buddha statue mysteriously remained intact on the rock. People in the region have been planning to resurrect this little temple in its current location since then. Similarly, the temple's hot spring is formed of an office building and is known as a “Buddhist temple with a hot spring.”



**Yumoto Hot Spring** (Yumoto literally “origin of hot water”) is a tiny hot spring hamlet in the heart of Nikko National Park, on a plateau surrounded by protected wetlands. The village is located near Lake Yunoko and is mostly made up of a ryokan with hot spring bathing. Shodo, a Buddhist monk, is reported to have found this spring 1200 years ago, and Kobo Daishi bathed here, as well. The water is vivid emerald green near its source



but becomes milk-white when exposed to the air; it includes a high concentration of meta-silicic acid, which is supposed to have a calming effect on the skin.



**Yunoko Lake and Senjogahara Marshland**, Yunoko is a small lake in the Senjogahara marshes, about north of the marshland. It's about 6 kilometers north-northwest of Lake Chuzenji, at a height of 1475 meters. It measures around 900 meters in length and 400 meters in breadth from north to south. This lake was formed 20 thousand years ago, when Lake Chuzenji was constructed following the eruption of Mount Nantai. The lake emerges from the waterfall and runs through Senjogahara, eventually

reaching Lake Chuzenji. There are old-growth trees and marsh around the lake, and many wild birds live there.

The plateau between Chuzenji and Yumoto Onsen is covered with Senjogahara Marshland. It has some of the greatest hiking in Nikko National Park, and it is particularly beautiful during the fall leaf season in October, when the marshy grasses turn a reddish yellow and the larch trees become a gleaming gold. The hiking trek takes around 2.5 to 3 hours to complete and provides fantastic views of the wetlands and nearby mountains.



**Yumoto Ski Resort** located on the east slopes of Mt Shirane in Nikko's western Oku-Nikko district, near the Gunman Prefecture border. Nikko city is blanketed with fluffy snow in the winter, making it ideal for skiing and snowboarding. Furthermore, the deer population in the region has expanded in recent years, which is good news for the animals. Due to deer grazing damage, the majority of the trees and Shirane-Aoi (*Glaucidium Palmutum*) colonies are on the verge of extinction. It is a big herbivorous

mammalian species. The antlers of the males are spectacular. Sika deer are frequently seen in Oku-Nikko. However, their number has exploded to the point that they are causing serious harm to moors and woodland plants.

### Field Observation and Impression

We were guided by a local tour who explained each place we visited. During the fieldwork, we jotted down some notes and interviewed around ten tourists like why do they choose Nikko for their weekend escape? Who are they traveling with? How many times do they have to visit Nikko? Did their travel destination change before and after the Covid-19 disaster? How do they feel about the environmental issue in the area, and overall, how would they rate the trip? The

questions and answers session between tourists took about 1 hour and a half.

We learned various things about the Oku-Nikko area, especially the problems and challenges toward the environmental issue and the decreased number of tourists. By the end of our fieldwork, we found out that our presentation at the symposium provided some ideas to help the local authority and tour guide to improve and attract overseas tourists to come to Nikko in the future. Oku-Nikko is a place that gives the impression of divinity, serenity, and natural beauty, as it is a vast green area beside the temples, mountains, and lakes, has passed beside it. In conclusion, the fieldwork end at about 5 pm. Overall, it can be concluded that the fieldwork and objective were successful and achieved. We learned so many things and beneficial for us toward the tourism places in Japan. This is a worth visiting place because it is one of the greatest naturally stunning heritage places in Japan. There are lots of activities to do, lots of things to see and several famous onsens to enjoy.

