

Taiho Sumo Memorial Museum

The Taiho Sumo Memorial Museum pays tribute to one of Japan's greatest sumo wrestlers, Taiho (1940–2013). This compact museum provides a window into the world of sumo, Taiho's life, and his career as one of the most successful figures in the history of the sport.

Taiho (born Naya Koki) grew up in Teshikaga from the age of five. He joined a sumo stable when he was 17, going on to become the youngest ever *yokuzuna* (grand champion) at the time, at age 21. His record of 32 tournament championships remained unbeaten for 43 years. A 15-minute documentary (English narration available; inquire at the reception desk) offers a detailed picture of Taiho's achievements, providing background that helps visitors appreciate the exhibits.

The museum houses a collection of objects from Taiho's life and sumo career, including clothing, intricately embroidered ceremonial aprons, trophies, victory portraits, and everyday articles like combs and brushes. Photographs document Taiho's time both inside and outside the sumo ring. Most signage is in Japanese.