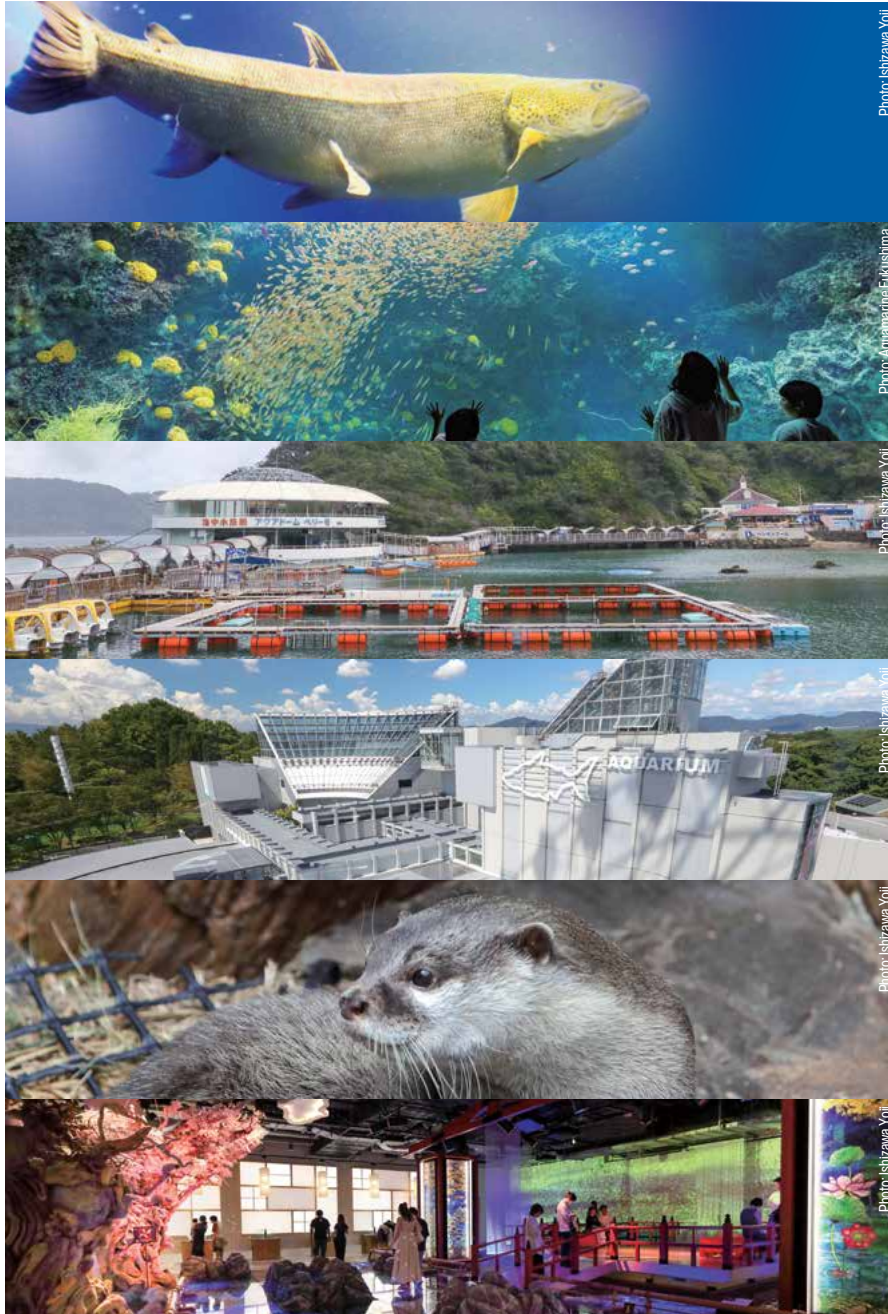


FEATURES

Japan's Enjoyable Public Aquariums



From top:

A Sakhalin taimen (*ito*), over 1 meter long (Northern Daichi Aquarium)

The Coral Reef Sea. The orange fish in the center of the photo are pigmy sweepers (*kinmemodoki*). (Aquamarine Fukushima)

Shimoda aquarium opened in 1967. Here you can see the circular ship Aqua Dome "PERRY".

The exterior of World Freshwater Aquarium Aquatotto Gifu

The Asian small-clawed otter in the Japanese Forest area. (Osaka Aquarium Kaiyukan)

MIYABI: Between Peace and Light zone features traditional Japanese design elements and a glass-floored aquarium. (átoa)

In Japan, a country surrounded by the sea and full of rivers and lakes, aquatic life is a very familiar presence. Even so, aquariums are popular here. Known for allowing visitors to experience — so to speak — into the underwater world, aquariums are seen by the people of Japan as uniquely unusual and enjoyable spaces. This issue of *Highlighting Japan* features a variety of public aquariums in contemporary Japan. Some specialize in freshwater fish, while others offer not only viewing but also extensive interactive programs. Still others show the world's largest fish species in giant tanks, and some even combine aquatic life exhibits with art.

