



Biorium

- **Open** : Wed. through Sun. Closed Mon. and Tue., but will be open when either or both days Mon and Tue are national holidays.
*Same as for the Museum of Food and Agriculture
*Please note that there may be unannounced extra holidays.
- **Hours**: 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Admission**: Free

Transportation

20 minutes on foot from the Kyodo Station of Odakyu Line
2 minutes on foot from the Nodai-mae bus stop
on any of the designated bus lines

- **From Chitose-Funabashi Station on the Odakyu Line:**
流23 bound for Shibuya
用01 bound for Yoga Station
暮11 bound for Todoroki
- **From Yoga Station on the Tokyu Den'en Toshi Line:**
国02 bound for Setagaya Kumin Kaikan (Public Hall)
用01 bound for Soshigaya Okura Station
- **From JR Shibuya Station (South Exit Bus Terminal):**
流23 bound for Soshigaya Okura Station
流24 bound for Seijo Gakuen-mae Station
流26 bound for Chofu Eki Minami-guchi (Chofu Station South Exit)

For more information contact:

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“Bio” means “life” and “rium” means “space” — the “Biorium” houses various living things, across the borders of “zoo”, “arboretum”, and “aquarium”.

Visitors can observe rare plants and animals collected by the Research Institute of Evolutionary Biology from various parts of the world.

Today, abundant information is available at our fingertips via the Internet. Direct contact with living things is what the Biorium provides for the visitors to experience their mystery and attractive qualities first-hand. The visitors are exposed to new discoveries to deepen their understanding of living things.

In conjunction with the Museum of Food and Agriculture of the Tokyo University of Agriculture, we look forward in welcoming you.



Largest Aloe

Aloe dichotoma from Namibia in Southwest Africa is one of the largest in the world and grows from 5 to 6 meters tall. The *Aloe* at the Biorium is one of the few that has been directly imported to Japan. As its growth is very slow, one rarely finds a large type of this in our country.



“Kanabo-no Ki” Didiereaceae as in the Proverb “Ogre with an Iron Club”

This species of the Didiereaceae family exists only in Madagascar, and plays the starring role in the mysterious scenic forest of the south. As its leaves protrude directly from the thorny trunk, it is called “Kanabo-no Ki (Metal Rod Tree)”. Ten of the 11 existing species at the Research Institute of Evolutionary Biology make them the rarest collection in the world.



Ring-tailed Lemur mother and child

Madagascar is the paradise of prosimians, where there are more than 30 species of lemurs. Four species have been brought to the Research Institute of Evolutionary Biology for research since 1964, and the number of animals has increased to almost 100, making the collection the largest number of animals bred. Don't be surprised by the loud chorus of the Ruffed Lemur. Also you will see Ring-tailed Lemur known for their beautiful striped tail, rare Black Lemur whose color varies according to sex and rather simple Brown Lemur.



Various Cacti

The evolution of cactus starting from leafy cactus (*Pereskia aculeata*) said to be the origin of the plant, all the way to dutchman's-pipe cactus (*Epiphyllum oxypetalum*) of humid tropical forests are displayed. The 30-year-old golden barrel cactus (*Echinocactus grusonii*) is amazing.



Madagascar Day Geckoes (*Phelsuma madagascariensis*)

Beautiful geckoes that are active during the day live in a wide area of Madagascar. The Biorium has some of the largest among them. Their body is twice as large or more than that of the geckoes in Japan, and their vivid colors and cute eyes are attractive. Although they mostly feed on insects, they also seem to have a sweet tooth for the nectar of flowers.



Shampoo Tree — *Uncarina*

Washed with viscous liquid extracted from its leaves soaked in water, your hair will become clean, silky, and shiny. In Madagascar, there is one shampoo tree in every garden. It is a decoration plant as well, with beautiful flowers and a unique-shaped fruit. This tree of the sesame-family exists only in Madagascar, and the Biorium is the only place in Japan that has all 14 species.

What is the Research Institute of Evolutionary Biology?

This Research Institute is unique in Japan as it focuses on collecting and studying living plants and animals and their actual specimens. Originally the “Institute for Breeding Research, Tokyo University of Agriculture”, which was established by Dr. Norio Kondo of the Department of Agriculture of the Tokyo University of Agriculture in 1950, the Research Institute of Evolutionary Biology became an independent foundation in 1974.

Why Not Join the Biorium Tour?

Guided tours of the Biorium with explanations of living plants and animals are conducted by staff of the Research Institute of Evolutionary Biology.

■ **Schedule**: Tue. and Thurs., 1st tour at 2:00 p.m.; 2nd tour at 3:00 p.m.

■ **Fee**: ¥500 for adults (¥400 per person of a group of 5 to 15 persons), ¥250 for children (includes a drink coupon for adults)

■ **Reservations**: Groups should apply for reservations no later than the previous day of the desired date.

Individuals may apply on the day. The Research Institute of Evolutionary Biology Office: Tel: 03-3420-7449