

# National Registered Cultural Property

## Toyama City Local History Museum (Toyama Castle)

In 1954, the Toyama Industrial Exposition was held across the Toyama Castle grounds to celebrate the completion of post-war reconstruction following the devastating 1945 air raid in the early hours of August 2. The Toyama City Local History Museum (Toyama Castle) was constructed to commemorate the Expo. Built in reinforced concrete on the stone walls of the former Honmaru Kurogane-mon, it features a castle-style design, including a main keep with a watchtower and a smaller keep, inspired by surviving examples like those of Hikone and Inuyama Castles. It stands as a pioneering example of post-war castle tower reconstruction.

Dubbed the “Palace of Beauty” during the Expo, it hosted various exhibitions and attracted numerous visitors, with the top floor offering panoramic views of Toyama City and the Tateyama Mountain Range.

The building was repurposed after the Expo as a folk museum and has since served as a central institution for providing insight into the local area, beloved by citizens as a downtown landmark.

From 2003, it underwent seismic retrofitting and interior renovations over two years to enhance accessibility and encourage more visitors.

Five decades after its construction, it was officially registered as a National Cultural Property as both a symbol of Toyama City and a representative structure of the post-war reconstruction period.