

## Team Austria at the Olympics und Paralympics



The Austrian triathletes and their coaches

Nasushiobara City is registered as Host Town for Austria for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics.

Austria is better at winter sports than at summer sports, but 75 Austrian athletes will compete in the Tokyo Olympics and 24 athletes will compete in the Paralympics. The Olympic sports where Austrian athletes have the highest hopes are discus throw and sports climbing. As of July 28, Austrian athletes have won one gold medal in women's cycling (road race) and one silver medal in men's judo.

Being a Host Town for Austria, Nasushiobara hosted the training camp of the Austrian triathlon team.

From July 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Austrian triathletes Alois Knabl, Lukas Hollaus and Julia Hauser practiced swimming, cycling and running in Nasushiobara. During their bicycle training they were guided by cyclists of Nasushiobara's local professional cycling team, "Nasu Blasen". Strong measures were taken to prevent a spread of Covid-19, and the Austrian coaches were very happy that they were able to train under the perfect conditions in Nasushiobara.

For the Paralympic Games, Austria will compete in the canoe, athletics, cycling, riding, wheelchair tennis, swimming, table tennis and triathlon. Last fiscal year, elementary students and junior high school students from Nasushiobara participated in an online exchange project with Austrian Paralympic swimmers and cyclists, and cheered for them. Please cheer for the Austrian athletes with us!



The Austrian triathletes and „Nasu Blasen“ team members

## We are introducing the Host Town Projects online

We are showing impressions of the **triathlete's training camp** on Nasushiobara City's official homepage (Japanese).



Nasushiobara City's homepage



One of the projects was a **cheering video with songs** for the Austrian athletes. Watch the video by opening this QR code:



Music exchange

Another project was **creating a menu inspired by Austrian food** with Nasu Takuyō High School participated. Watch the video by opening this QR code:



Food Exchange

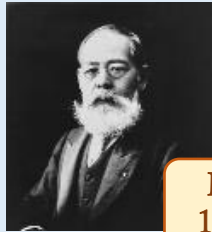
# Nasushiobara & Linz



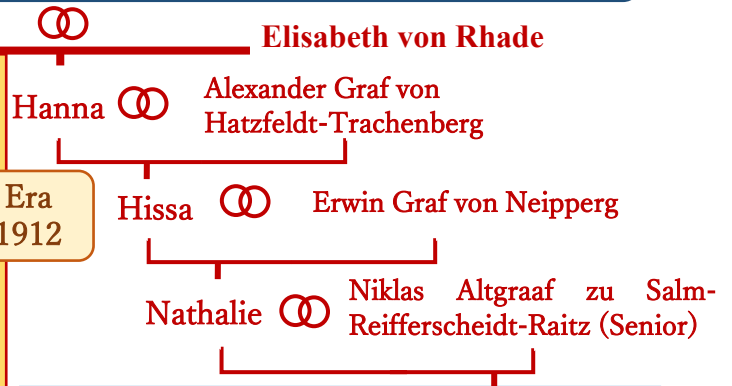
## 5 Years of Sister City Relations



Shūzō AOKI was one of the pioneers of the Meiji era. He was an ambassador to Germany and Austria. Aoki married the German aristocrat Elisabeth von Rhade and lived in the Aoki Villa in present day Nasushiobara. He founded the **“Aoki General Elementary School”** in 1904.



Meiji Era  
1868-1912



Niklas Salm-Reifferscheidt’s visit for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Aoki Elementary School** in **2004** was the starting point for the exchange.



**Niklas Salm-Reifferscheidt** is Shūzō AOKI’s descendant and lives near the City of Linz. He first visited Japan out of curiosity about his ancestor. He continues the legacy of Aoki, who had connected Japan and Europe. Like



**2005** is the start of the junior high school student exchange between Nasushiobara and Linz. To date, about 500 junior high school

2005

Aoki, he is an important connecting link in the Austrian-Japanese exchange.



students from Nasushiobara and 150 students from Linz have participated in the mutual exchange.

2016



**13.6.2016 Signing of the Sister City Treaty** by the Mayors of Nasushiobara and Linz at the Aoki Villa

### Sports Exchange

**2017 Signing the agreements about training camps for the Tokyo Games with the Triathlon Federation (right)** and the Austrian Olympic Committee



In **2018 and 2019, training camps for the Austrian triathletes** and exchange meetings with Nasushiobara citizens took place.

### Cultural Exchange

In **2017**, an art exhibition was held for the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of sister city relations.



**2018** we introduced each other’s culture through events like concerts. In the year of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Japanese-Austrian friendship **2019**, Nasushiobara held the **“Austria Festa”**, deepening our mutual understanding.

2019



In **2020**, eight Austrian Paralympic swimmers and cyclists participated in online exchange meetings with elementary school and junior high school students from Nasushiobara.

2021

**2021** is the **5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sister city relations**, while also being the year of the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. Nasushiobara is supporting Austria as a Host Town.



# Nasushiobara & Linz

## ~ 5 Years of Sister City Exchange ~

On June 25, 2021 an online meeting was held on the occasion of the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sister city relations. We looked back on the exchange activities so far, and also exchanged ideas for the future. A courtesy visit in person was unfortunately impossible, but Linz City’s Mayor Klaus Luger and Nasushiobara City’s Mayor Michitarō Watanabe were happy to be able to realize an online exchange. Mayor Watanabe reported on the exchange projects and the training camp that Nasushiobara realized as a Host Town for Austria. Mayor Luger expressed his gratitude. Once the Covid-19 pandemic has calmed down, he wishes to continue the junior high school student exchange, and also focus on cultural exchange, in order to deepen the friendship between both cities.



Online Meeting: Mayor Watanabe (left) and City Council President Matsuda (right) from Nasushiobara; Mayor Luger (screen bottom left) and City Council Member Raml (screen bottom right) from Linz

## Lively Host Town Exchange

The Austrian Host Towns Azumino (Nagano Prefecture), Yahaba (Iwate Prefecture) and Nasushiobara worked together. We held 3 exchange projects to cheer on the Austrian athletes.

**1. Music Exchange** In Japan, the Junior Ensemble from Azumino, junior high school students from Yahaba and students from the Aoki and Sekiya elementary schools in Nasushiobara participated. In Austria, the Youth



1. Choir, Sekiya Elementary School



2. Students of Higashi Nasuno Junior High School introduce Nasushiobara

Choir of the Music School of the City of Linz and a music group from Kramsach in Tyrol participated. Together, they performed the Austrian National Anthem, the folk song “*In die Berg‘ bin i gern*”, and the Japanese folk song “*Furusato*”. They compiled it into one video.

**2. Picture Book Exchange** The Erwin Moser Elementary School in Gols (Burgenland State) connected online with elementary schools and junior high schools in the three Japanese municipalities (cities), and talked with them in English. The students introduced their schools. The exchange was captured in drawings and compiled into a picture book, which will be sent to the Austrian athletes.

**3. Food Exchange** The three Japanese municipalities created a dish inspired by Austrian cuisine (food). Students from the Food Culture Program at Nasu Takuyō High School helped with the creation. They created “*Onion Tascherl*”. It is a “one plate menu” which has puff pastry with beef- and pork filling, asparagus and a dessert in the colors of the Austrian flag. The dish is planned to be offered at Nasu Maronnier Hotel as a special menu during the Games.



3. “Onion Tascherl”

# Nasushiobara & Linz

## Let's Try! ☆ Cheering in German

In Japan, the most common words of encouragement are “*Ganbare!* (Keep at it)” or “*Faito!* (Keep fighting)”. Common German expressions with a similar meaning are “*Gib dein Bestes!* (Do your best)”. Expressions like “*Du schaffst das!* (You can do it)” or “*Nicht aufgeben!* (Don't give up)” are also used. But the phrases most commonly used before a match would be “*Viel Glück!* (Good Luck!)” or “*Toi, toi, toi!*”. These words are wishes for the good luck and success of the athletes.



Some of these words are also introduced as part of “At Home with Florin”.

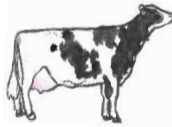


Answer below

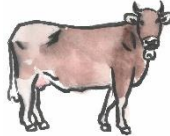
What is the most common kind of cattle in Austria ?



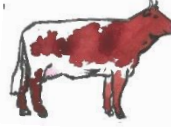
**A :** Holstein



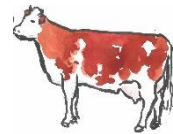
**B :** Swiss Brown



**C :** Pinzgauer

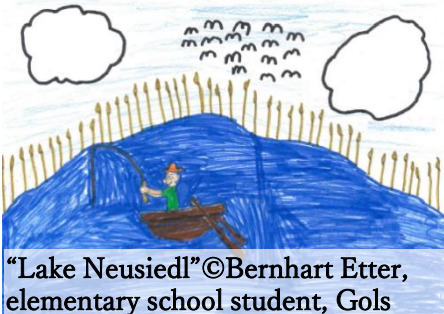


**D :** Fleckvieh



## Regional News

## The rich Nature in Burgenland State



“Lake Neusiedl” ©Bernhart Etter, elementary school student, Gols

Burgenland State is known for Lake Neusiedl (Austria's largest lake), the abundant nature and the Esterházy family, who were patrons of the composer Haydn. Until World War 1 Burgenland was part of Hungary. Because many people who lived there spoke Croatian and German, it became a State of Austria when the Austro-Hungarian Empire separated. It joined Austria in 1921, so 2021 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Burgenland being an Austrian state. Even today, many people living in Burgenland speak Croatian or Hungarian, and the tradition of the Austrian-Hungarian multithnic state continues. It has a characteristic, multifaceted culture. As part of the Host Town Initiative, elementary and junior high school students from Nasushiobara participated in an online exchange with 4<sup>th</sup> grade students from Erwin Moser Elementary School in Gols in Burgenland State. Gols is a small village near Lake Neusiedel that is known for viniculture (growing wine) and being the home town of the picture book author Erwin Moser.



**State:** Burgenland ♥ **State Capital:** Eisenstadt ♥

**Population:** approx. 277,569 ♥ **Area:** approx. 3,965.5 km<sup>2</sup>

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HP (Back Issues, GER/EN/J): <https://www.city.nasushiobara.lg.jp/soshikikarasagasu/hishoka/shiminsankaku/1/3/4240.html>

Nasushiobara Sister City Newsletter



Quiz-Lösung: D.  
About 3/4 (75.3%) of  
Austrian cattle are  
Fleckvieh.