

JAPAN: Fukuoka
July 5, 2016



I had the day free on Tuesday so I decided to explore some parts of Fukuoka. I read that Ohori Park was a nice place to go and by then I already felt comfortable taking the subway by myself.

As I was walking to the park, I noticed the Fukuoka Art Museum and was curious so I went. The museum opened in 1979 and has modern and pre-modern art collections as well as temporary exhibits. I saw both galleries and especially liked the modern art collections because it has surrealistic style paintings. The Fukuoka art museum has a special piece by Andy Warhol *Elvis* that grabbed my attention. I read that the museum acquired this piece for 128,730,000 yen and it is the only early artwork from Warhol found in Japan. The museum also had other paintings from worldwide known artists such as Salvador Dali, as well as Japanese-style paintings.

In the temporary exhibition gallery, there was a small workshop where people could make their own stamps. The volunteers at the museum were patient with me and showed me step by step how to do it. In the end, I had a nice souvenir to take home that I made myself!

I was so glad I stopped at the museum and was pleasantly surprised with the beautiful paintings inside. It is very close to the park and is worthwhile to visit. I liked it so much that I might even go once more before I leave Japan!



After the museum I continued walking and came across a traditional Japanese garden. Of course I went and was delighted with the nature surrounding me. The Ohori Koen Japanese Garden has traditional Japanese garden features with an area of 12,000 sq/m and 40 types of vegetation. I had the whole garden to myself making it very peaceful and relaxing.