What and Where to Eat and Drink?

**Introduction**

There are outstanding eating and drinking options in Sapporo 札幌 whatever your tastes and budget: from Hokkaido’s famous rib-sticking *jingiskan* ジンギスカン／成吉思汗 (a lamb BBQ) to upscale and aesthete seafood options; from pricey *sake* 酒 (rice wine) stores to rough-around-the-edges *nomihōdai* 飲み放題 (all-you-can-drink joints). **With the exception of the dinner on the second day (Sunday, October 16), no food will be served during the conference.** What follows are only a few convenient options in a city famed for its places for food and frolicking. If time permits; explore further.

Map of the JR (Japan Railway) Sapporo Station Complex
The day's jump start

For people who stay at hotels without meals, there are numerous coffee and pastry shops in and about JR Sapporo Station. Indeed there are no less than three Starbucks coffee outlets in the Sapporo Station complex alone! Two on the main floor, with one at the south exit and the other at the west entrance to PASEO, but if Starbucks is not your coffee of choice, then across from the west entrance to PASEO is a Japanese coffee and chocolate croissant place, and to the north of that building, namely the north side of Yodobashi Camera, is a McDonald’s. Inside the station there are other options, such as Doutor (one of the most popular coffee shops in Japan), Paul (a bit pricy, but great French-style savories) on the first floor near the south gate, and Café Denmark in the basement (convenient if you are coming to the conference venue via subway). In fact, the basement of the entire JR Sapporo Station complex (PASEO, APIA, and STELLAR PLACE) is full of places to eat. The station is within a 10 minute walk from the conference site.

Lunch time

Please bring your lunch or eat near the conference venue. The conference is run on a tight time schedule. Keep this in mind especially if your panel is right after lunch as it takes time to wander, order, savor, return, and settle in.

Bento (a boxed meal) is surely the most cheap and convenient option. They can be purchased at convenience stores located throughout the city. There are several near the Main Gate of the university as well if you forget to buy one in the morning.

Again the area in or around JR Sapporo Station, especially the aforementioned PASEO, which is located on the basement floor, and the sixth floor of STELLAR PLACE, are full of reasonable places to grab a quick bite.

One recommendation (that will require a bit of hustle on your part) is on the 10th floor of the ESTA building. “Sapporo Ramen Kyōwakoku” 札幌ラーメン共和国 (Republic of Sapporo Ramen) houses a wide variety of ramen (a Chinese influenced noodle soup) from all over Hokkaido. Soup curry is considered to be Sapporo’s ‘soul food’ and stores selling it are plentiful and usually have English (or pictured) menus.

Food options in the PASEO Building:
http://www.e-paseode.com.e.ov.bp.transer.com/dining_cafe

Food options in STELLAR PLACE:
http://www.stellarplace.net.e.ow.hp.transer.com/dining_cafe

Ramen for every taste:

JR Sapporo Station (South Exit)
Note: Hokkaido University is located on the opposite (= north) side of the station.

**Dinner time**

For the less adventurous—or overly jetlagged—the above options still apply at night. Moreover, in the area between the conference venue and the north side of JR Sapporo Station, as well as in the station complex itself, there are a number of restaurants and **izakaya** 居酒屋 (Japanese-style pubs). Prices range and many remain open until the trains stop running around midnight.

There are surprisingly many restaurants in central Sapporo, which expands from **Kita Nijūyō-njō Station** 北24条駅 (North 24) to the **Susukino** すすきの entertainment district. But please keep in mind that Sapporo is not a compact city and to walk this route is almost impossible. Fortunately, one subway line called **Namboku** 南北 runs from North 24 to Sapporo Station, to **Ōdōri Park** 大通公園, and on to Susukino すすきの. The subway fare is about 250 yen. (On the Namboku Subway Line, North 24 is 3 stations north of Sapporo and 2 stations south of Asabu. See the map below).
Map of JR (colored in red) and Subway Lines in Sapporo
Note: The north end terminal of the Nanboku Subway Line 地下鉄南北線 (colored in green at the center) is Asabu 麻生, and the south end terminal is Makomanai 真駒内.

The North 24 area is popular among local people. It is full of reasonable ‘chain store’ izakaya 居酒屋 (Japanese-style pubs) and yakiniku 焼肉 (BBQ) places. The area is laid out in a simple-to-navigate grid pattern and is likely to be full of students. Here you can encounter many tabehōdai 食べ放題 (all-you-can-eat) and nomihōdai 飲み放題 (all-you-can-drink) places. These options have a set price usually for 2 hours. They can be quite reasonable, often the nomihōdai price equals the cost of approximately three drinks.

The Ōdōri Park 大通公園 area is popular with tourists. This park divides central Sapporo into northern and southern halves. It runs from east to west, and there is a television tower at the eastern end. There are some famous ‘soup curry’ shops on its fringes. Heading further south, the covered shopping arcade called Tanuki Kōji 狸小路 (Raccoon-dog Alley) has some good eating and drinking options, especially the further west you go.

And finally, for seafood lovers, Susukino すすきの is world-famous, particularly for crab meat. Prices are at the higher end, ranging from 7,000 to 12,000 yen for a full course, and reservations may be necessary. Seafood may also be enjoyed at affordable prices in various types of restaurants throughout Sapporo.
Post-supper linguistic lubrication establishments

We challenge you to not find a good place to drink in Sapporo. From great craft
beer and local snacks http://www.hokkaidoexplorer.com/sapporo-craft-beer-map/
to more ‘traditional’ Japanese, to nightclubs, once you start heading south from Ōdōri Park 大通公園 towards the gleaming sign of the Nikka Whisky billboard in Susukino すすきの, you will feel the change in atmosphere from buttoned down to progressively unbuttoned.

A word of caution is necessary. Susukino すすきの is famous, and infamous, for its vibrant nightlife. While it is not Soi Cowboy in Thailand or a Mountain View Road in Kingston, Jamaica, some care should be taken in this area. Japan has a low crime rate, but that does not equate with being crimeless. Be sure of any cover charge (entrance fee) you may encounter.

Enjoy Sapporo
https://lifetoreset.wordpress.com/2013/01/09/sapporo-at-night/