

外国人拾得者への説明事項

1. 落とし物を拾った場合について

When you find lost property that someone has lost

○ When you find lost property, promptly return it to the person who lost it or report it to any police station or police box.

○ When the property is found at a particular place such as a train station, a department store, an amusement park, a hotel, a hospital, a building, or in a vehicle such as a train, a bus, or a taxi, promptly report the found property to the train station staff, employees or shop assistants.

When you fail to report the found property to the manager within 24 hours, you will forfeit your rights as finder (refer to 3).

○ You will be given a copy of the Receipt of Found Property which is filed at the police. It indicates the date, time, and place the property was found, the description of the property, and the period during which you are entitled to the ownership in case the property cannot be returned to the owner.

Please keep this receipt as it will be required to receive the found property after you acquire its ownership.

2. 落とし物が警察に届けられた後の流れ

Process after the found property is reported

○ The found property will be retained at the police station for 3 months from the day the property is reported to the police. During this period, the police will post notices as well as make inquiries to the relevant entities and business operators so that the owner of the lost property will know his/her property has been recovered.

However, items such as umbrellas, clothing, handkerchiefs, scarves, neckties, belts, textile or leather accessories, footwear, bicycles, and animals, may either be sold or disposed of if the owner is not found within 2 weeks from the day of posting notices.

○ Police stations may be unable to investigate the identity of the owner for lost properties such as cash cards or credit cards issued by financial institutions outside of Japan, or items such as mobile phones.

○ When the owner is found, the police will contact him/her and return the property. The finder will be notified when the property is returned to the owner.

○ When the owner waives the ownership of the property, you will be entitled to it.

○ When the owner is not found, you may receive the property during 2 month period after the statutory 3 month retention period.

○ If the property is not collected by either the owner or the finder, ownership will be transferred to the prefecture, which will sell or dispose of the property.

3. 拾得者の権利について

Rights of the finder

○ By reporting the found property, you are entitled to the following rights.

However, if you fail to report the found property to the police or police box within 7 days, or in the case of finding the lost property at a facility with a manager within 24 hours, you will not be entitled to such rights.

① Right to claim a reward (between 5% and 20% of the value/price of the property).

When the owner is found, you are entitled to receive a reward between 5% and 20% of the value of the found property. However, when the property is found at a particular place such as a station or a department store, the reward will be divided between the finder and the manager (between 2.5% and 10% of the value).

② Right to acquire ownership of the found property if the owner is not found within 3 months.

If the owner is not found within 3 months, you may acquire ownership of the property.

If the police does not notify you of returning the items to the owner, you are entitled ownership, so notify the police and pick up the property within the period indicated on the Receipt of Found Property.

The period for pick-up is 2 months. After this period, ownership will be transferred to the prefecture.

(You may not acquire ownership of prohibited items and articles containing personal information such as credit cards, IDs, and cell phones.)

③ Right to claim the cost required to report and retain the found property.

You may charge the owner who recovers the lost property for the cost required in reporting the found property (transportation cost, etc.) and the storage cost (such as medical fees and the cost of feed for animals). If you acquire ownership of the found property, you may be required to bear the retention cost that has been covered by the police.

○ If you are unable to pick up the property at the police station, the police can ship it to you at your own expense.

If you request shipping the found property, please prepare in advance the Found Property Shipping Request Form indicating the shipping address and preferred shipping method and the Receipt of Found Property. Please submit the documents with the required shipping cost to the police. Only JAPANESE YEN (¥) is acceptable.

○ You may exercise rights ① to ③ above generally or selectively, or you may waive them all.

○ If you exercise rights ① and/or ③, your name and contact information will be notified to the owner.

If you do not wish to disclose your name and contact information to the owner, please request so when handing in the lost property. In this case, you will no longer be able to exercise your rights to ① and ③.

○ The police are not involved in matters concerning rewards and costs, so please consult directly with the owner.

○ After 1 month has passed since the return of the property to the owner, you will not be able to exercise your right to claim a reward or costs.

○ If you are living abroad and are claiming the ownership of the found property, please provide a valid Email address and phone number so that the police can contact you after you leave Japan. If you request to have the property shipped after you return to your country, you will be required to bear the total shipping cost.

Please prepare in advance the Found Property Shipping Request Form indicating the shipping address and preferred shipping method and the Receipt of Found Property. Please submit the documents with the required shipping cost to the police.

Only JAPANESE YEN (¥) is acceptable.