

What's New in Yokosuka

<http://www.city.yokosuka.kanagawa.jp/0140/english/welcome/documents/cultureinfo.pdf>

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March 10, 2012 Vol. 18

Cherry Blossom Festivals throughout Yokosuka!

~ CHERRY BLOSSOM INFO ~



William Adams Cherry Blossom Party (三浦按針祭観桜会)

This ceremonial event is in remembrance of “the blue-eyed samurai” William Adams, also known as Miura Anjin, who contributed to the development of our country’s culture.

When: April 8th (Sun.) 11:00 – (last day of Tsukayama Park Cherry Blossom Festival as shown below)

Where: Tsukayama Prefectural Park (県立塚山公園) <to be held at Nagaura Community Center in the event of foul weather>

Fee: Free [International Relations Division 046-822-8138]

Tsukayama Park Cherry Blossom Festival (塚山公園さくら祭)

Come and visit Tsukayama Park while around 1,000 cherry trees are in bloom with other special events such as the William Adams Cherry Blossom Party (details above) and a parade (March 25th, 10 a.m.) while enjoying some green tea free of charge!

When: March 23rd (Fri.) – April 8th (Sun.)

Where: Tsukayama Prefectural Park (県立塚山公園) **Fee:** Free

[Hemi Sightseeing Association 046-822-2575]



Funakoshi Nango Park Cherry Blossom Festival (船越南郷公園桜まつり)

A park veiled by cherry blossoms with several special events including a parade (April 1st, 10:00 – 10:50), ceremony, entertainment shows, and performances! At Funakoshi Nango Park, glorious lanterns are to be lit up from 17:00 – 21:00 on March 19th through April 14th.

When: March 18th (Sun.) – April 14th (Sat.)

Where: Funakoshi Nango Park (船越南郷公園) **Fee:** Free

[Taura Sightseeing Association 046-861-4181]



Kita-kurihama Cherry Blossom Festival (北久里浜桜まつり)

Negishi Traffic Park and Negishi Park No.3 will be covered in cherry blossoms! Main events will be held between March 31st – April 1st which includes flea markets, food stands, and stage performances.

When: March 24th (Sat.) – April 1st (Sun.)

Where: Negishi Traffic Park and Negishi Park No. 3

(根岸交通公園, 根岸第三公園) Fee: Free

[Otsu Sightseeing Association 046-836-3531]

U.S. – Japan Spring Festival (日米親善よこすかスプリングフェスタ)

The Yokosuka Navy Base will be opened to the public for more people to enjoy cherry blossom viewing. There will be stage events and American food stands! A cherry blossom festival only found in Yokosuka! <to be cancelled in the event of foul weather>

When: March 25th (Sun.) 9:00 – 17:00

Where: Yokosuka U.S. Navy Base (米海軍横須賀基地) Fee: Free

[Suka navi i (Yokosuka Sightseeing Information) 046-822-8301]



Kinugasa Cherry Blossom Festival (衣笠さくら祭)



The 2,000 cherry trees in bloom! There will be all sorts of music and dance performances including traditional Japanese drums and band performances.

When: March 29th (Thur.) – April 9th (Mon.)

Where: Kinugasayama Park (衣笠山公園) Fee: Free

[Kinugasa Sightseeing Association 046- 853-1611]

• **Miura Clan Ceremonial Parade** (三浦一党出陣武者行列)

How frequently do you see parades with people dressed in traditional Japanese armors? This ceremonial parade is in remembrance of the Miura Clan, who supported Minamoto no Yoritomo in founding the Kamakura shogunate.

When: April 22nd (Sun.) 13:00 – 15:00 <to be cancelled in the event of rain>

Where: Area in front of JR Kinugasa Station (JR衣笠駅周辺) Fee: Free

[Kinugasa Sightseeing Association 046- 853-1611]

UPCOMING EVENTS

Kanrin-maru Festival (咸臨丸フェスティバル)

An exciting event with countless activities including contests, stage attractions, flea markets, and food stands!

When: April 28th (Sat.) 10:00 – 16:00

Where: Sumitomo Heavy Industries, Uraga Factory and areas near Uraga Port (住友重機械工業浦賀工場及び浦賀港周辺) Fee: Free

[Uraga Sightseeing Association 046-841-4155]

• **Kanrin-maru Memorial Ceremony** (咸臨丸フェスティバル式典)

This ceremony is held in commemorating “Kanrin-maru,” the battleship that departed from Uraga and crossed the Pacific Ocean for the mission to ratify the Japan-U.S. Commerce and Trade Agreement.

When: April 28th (Sat.) 11:00 –

Where: Sumitomo Heavy Industries, Uraga Factory (住友重機械工業浦賀工場) Fee: Free

[International Relations Division 046-822-8138]



Takeyama Azalea Festival (武山つつじ祭り)

Approximately 2,000 blooming azaleas cover the summit of Mount Takeyama from early April to early May. The festival will hold sketch contests and more exciting events to come!

When: May 3rd (Thur.) – 5th (Sat.) <events will be from 9:00 – 15:00>

Where: Summit of Mount Takeyama (武山山頂)

Fee: Free

[Takeyama Sightseeing Association 046-856-3157]



Yokosuka Curry Festival (よこすかカレーフェスティバル)

One of Japan's specialty curry event held in Yokosuka! Curry menus from all around Japan will gather here! You won't wanna miss out on entertainment and stage performances located throughout the event!

When: May 12th (Sat.) and 13th (Sun.) 9:00 – 16:00

Where: Mikasa Park (三笠公園)

Fee: Free

[Suka navi i (Yokosuka Sightseeing Information) 046-822-8301]

Year -Round Events

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">2012</div> April 4月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Adams Cherry Blossom Party • Kanrin-maru Festival 	May 5月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takeyama Azalea Festival • Yokosuka Curry Festival • Kurihama Hana-no-machi Spring Flower Fair
June 6月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinugasa Iris Festival • Yokosuka YY Transport Festa • Nagoshi-no O-harae Chi-no-Wa Kurguri 	July 7月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kurihama Perry Festival • Yokosuka Kaikoku Festival (Event within the city)
August 8月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yokosuka Kaikoku Fireworks Display • Uraga Port Festival • Nishi District Summer Fireworks 	September 9月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kita-kurihama Fall Festival
October 10月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oryo-san Festival • Kurihama Hana-no-machi Fall Flower Fair • Yokosuka Mikoshi Parade 	November 11月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kannonzaki Festa • Yokosuka Sangyo Matsuri Specialty Festival • Verny-Oguri Memorial Ceremony
December 12月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Festa (Kurihama) • Yokosuka Countdown 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">2013</div> January 1月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takeyama Hatsufudo
February 2月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taura Plum Grove Festival 	March 3月	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nagashi-bina (Awashima Shrine) • Harikuyo (Hashirimizu Shrine) • Funakoshi Nango Park Cherry Blossom Festival

※Some events may be subject to change

Japanese Survival Tips

From late March to April, *hanami* (花見), or cherry blossom viewing is just one of many opportunities in Japanese culture for appreciating nature in a culturally traditional way. The direct translation for *hanami* is flower viewing but in Japan it's to view the cherry blossoms, or *sakura* (桜). There will be people arriving early in the morning to reserve a spot for his/her group. Similar to finding the best location to see the fireworks!

You'll see lots of people eating and drinking under the cherry trees. In fact, some people see cherry blossom season as a rare excuse to party it up during the day! In Japan, people have traditionally gathered and celebrated under the cherry trees because spring symbolizes a new beginning such as schools and businesses.

When watching the Japanese weather forecast, they will have a blossom forecast, or *sakura zensen* (桜前線) and announce when the sakura will be in full-bloom.

The "survival" part of this month's "Japanese Survival Tips" is pollen season! For those who do not have pollen allergies, you're very lucky you don't because pollen starts spreading from late February to April. I have never experienced the spring season in Japan so I'll definitely be one of those people wearing masks to prevent as much pollen as possible. Of course, I've never worn masks back home but apparently many people in Japan do so it'll be a first time experience for me!

Miho Tanaka, a native of Georgia, U.S.A., is Yokosuka City's Coordinator for International Relations. "Japanese Survival Tips" in every issue of What's New in Yokosuka features fun information useful for everyday life and cultural encounters in Japan.



Event Calendar

MARCH				MAY	
17	• Spring Concert (14:00 – 15:30, Kitashitaura Community Center)	23	• Tsukayama Park Cherry Blossom Festival (– April 8 th)	3	• Takeyama Azalea Festival (– 5 th)
18	• Funakoshi Nango Park Cherry Blossom Festival (– April 14 th)	24	• Kita-kurihama Cherry Blossom Festival (– April 1 st)	12	• Yokosuka Curry Festival (– 13 th)
20	• Aicle Fair (10:00 – 15:00, Aicle) • Animal Protection Center Day Open to Public (10:00 – 15:00, Animal Protection Center)	APRIL			
		8	• William Adams Cherry Blossom Party		* <i>What's New in Yokosuka comes out again on May 10th!</i>
		28	• Kanrin-maru Festival		* <i>The schedule posted may be subject to change.</i>

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