

What's New in Yokosuka

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

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* The schedule posted may be subject to change.

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Discover Yokosuka with YOKOSUKA 1CHIBAN!



Yokosuka 1chiban website

Yokosuka 1chiban booklet

WELCOME TO YOKOSUKA 1CHIBAN
YOKOSUKA INFORMATION
Base-Friendly Establishment

<http://www.sukaichi-e.com>

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YCCI: Yokosuka Chamber of Commerce and Industry provides you with the newly released booklet introducing 67 restaurants, stores, services, and more! This picture packed booklet includes coupons lasting until November 30, 2013 and maps locating each store!

These can be retrieved at the Yokosuka Naval Base, Yokosuka City Hall, Yokosuka International Association, Yokosuka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and all stores introduced in this booklet. For more details on the stores, you can visit the YCCI website at <http://www.sukaichi-e.com>



←LOOK FOR THIS STICKER!

Stores with the “base friendly” sticker on their window are all introduced in the YOKOSUKA 1CHIBAN website and provides English menu and/or has staff who can speak English.

UPCOMING EVENTS



The 58th Annual Taura Plum Grove Festival

(第58回 田浦梅林まつり)

Come and visit the Taura Plum Grove with family and friends to view the white and red plum blossom trees! There will also be several events that you won't want to miss! Dates and event details are listed as below.

When: February 9th (Sat.) – March 17th (Sun.)

Where: Taura Plum Grove (田浦梅の里) Taura Elementary School (田浦小学校), and Taura Shinmei Sha (田浦神明社)

Fee: Free

- Family kite-flying: February 10th (Sun.) 13:00 – 14:00 (to be postponed till Sunday, February 17th in the event of rain)
 - Flower arrangements, haiku, Japanese kites, and photo exhibition held in Taura Elementary School gymnasium (田浦小学校体育館): February 23rd (Sat.) 12:00 – 14:00, February 24th (Sun.) 10:00 – 15:00
 - Theatrical Entertainment held in Taura Elementary School gymnasium (田浦小学校体育館): February 24th (Sun.) 10:00 – 15:00
- [Taura Administration Center 046-861-4181]

The 19th Annual Taura Tourism Photo Contest

Photos of Taura Plum Grove, of Funakoshi Nango Park, or any other photo depicting Taura's natural beauty, ruins, cultural treasures, sightseeing facilities, events, or anything relating to Taura are welcome! Judging and award ceremony will take place in May. For details (only in Japanese): <http://members3.jcom.home.ne.jp/taurakan2008/>

Free to apply; Submission period: February 9th (Sat.) – April 30th (Tue.)

[Taura Administration Center 046-861-4181]



2012 Mayor's Award
「田浦の朝」"Morning of Taura"



Mt. Takeyama Hatsufudo (武山初不動)

A pleasant gathering of people praying for good health in the New Year, and children enjoying famous *fugashi* sweets. Sweets will be sold starting at 7 a.m. Please note that the summit of Mt. Takeyama can only be reached by hiking from Ikkizuka bus stop (40 min.).

Please come by bus as there is no parking.

When: January 28th (Mon.)

Where: Summit of Mt. Takeyama / Mt. Takeyama Fudoin
(武山山頂 / 武山不動院)

Fee: Free [Takeyama Sightseeing Association 046-856-3157]

Dobuita Bazaar (どぶ板バザール)

Flea market with over 100 stalls! A fun annual Dobuita event with performances and live music to enjoy!

When: February 9th (Sat.), 10th (Sun.), and 11th (Mon.) 10:00 – 18:00

Where: Dobuita Street area (どぶ板通り周辺)

Fee: Free [Honcho Merchant Association 046-824-4917]



Not Alone Fair (のたろんフェア)

Are you interested in looking at what kind of community clubs are around Yokosuka? Not Alone Fair introduces many community clubs, activities, flea markets, and more!

When: February 9th (Sat.) and 10th (Sun.) 10:00 – 16:00

Where: Yokosuka Volunteer Support Center (市民活動サポートセンター)

Fee: Free [Yokosuka Volunteer Support Center 046-828-3130]



Experience Japanese Culture (日本文化体験教室)

A day of fun with Japanese culture! You can try origami, flower arrangements, tea ceremony, and calligraphy; put on a kimono or play traditional Japanese musical instruments.

When: March 2nd (Sat.) 13:00 – 17:00

Where: Sogo Fukushi Kaikan Hall 6th flr. (総合福祉会館6階)

Fee: Free Admission (some activities may require fee for materials)

[Yokosuka International Association 046-827-2166]

Nagashi-bina (流し雛)

Nagashi-bina is held on March 3rd every year. Paper dolls are put on a boat and drifted down the river to wash away misfortunes.

When: March 3rd (Sun.)

Where: Awashima Shrine (淡島神社)

Address: 1-18-29 Ashina

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



Needle Mass (針供養)

Needle Mass or *hari-kuyo* is a traditional event when Japanese women would gather their broken needles, take them to a shrine, and pay tribute to the needles which have served them in the past years by putting the needles inside a tofu. People wish for improvement in their needlework as well.

When: March 9th (Sat.) 11:00 – 12:00

Where: Hashirimizu Shrine (走水神社)

Address: 2-12-5 Hashirimizu

Fee: Free [Otsu Sightseeing Association 046-836-3531]

Aizuwakamatsu, the SAMURAI CITY

Aizuwakamatsu (会津若松) is a city located in western Fukushima Prefecture and has friendship city ties with Yokosuka. Aizu is well-known for their samurai history, nice hot springs, and fine sake! One famous tourist attraction is Tsuruga-jo, a castle that withstood attacks during the Boshin War, a battle between Tokugawa forces and the new Meiji government. You can also enjoy their wide variety of local cuisines such as horsemeat, sauce-katsu (pork cutlet topped with special sauce), and kozuyu (clear soup made from dried scallop stock containing carrots, mushrooms, and wheat gluten.) Aizu is an amazing place to travel even for the weekend!



Tohoku Experience

This section generally introduces holidays and customs in Japan, but for this month, I'd like to take the opportunity to share my volunteer experience in Ishinomaki, Miyagi Prefecture, one of the cities that was hit hardest by the tsunami and earthquake disaster on March 11, 2011. In late November, I headed to Ishinomaki on a night bus and arrived at Ishinomaki Station at seven in the morning. As I looked around the station, the streets and buildings were clean and looked brand new as if the disaster never occurred. However, my impression changed the moment we drove past the downtown area. As we drove farther away from the station, we witnessed several open areas where destroyed houses remain standing even till this day. While new houses were built in the area, their number doesn't compare to the number of homes destroyed.



As we all gathered in the volunteer house, we were welcomed by the people of the local community who were all very energetic with bright smiles on their faces. Later, I heard they had all lost their families and friends in the tsunami. While we often hear many stories of the victims of the disaster on TV, it was definitely more shocking to listen to them in person, and I felt there was immense value in going to these disaster sites. During my two-day stay, we took on several tasks such as loading and moving items to be used for making donation items, pulling out weeds on the land of one elderly resident, and delivering donated blankets to local apartment complexes and temporary homes. There is still a need for volunteer help, but the number of volunteers who go to the disaster areas has been decreasing. The jobs and needs vary day by day, so for those who still haven't had the opportunity to volunteer, it's never too late! My trip to Tohoku—though short and bittersweet—was absolutely worth the time and money, and I hope to volunteer again in other regions in the near future.

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

| JANUARY | | FEBRUARY | | MARCH | |
|---------|---|----------|---|-------|---|
| 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yokosuka Literary Monument and Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition (– 20th, Hamayu Hall Exhibition Gallery) | 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dobuuta Bazaar (– 11th) Not Alone Fair (– 10th) | 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience Japanese Culture |
| 16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Exhibition of the winners of the "Arasaki Seaside Course" Sketch Contest (– 30th, Nishi Administration Center) | 23 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kitashitaura Cultural Festival (– 24th, 9:30 – 16:00, 24th closes at 15:30, Kitashitaura Community Center, Kitashitaura Civic Plaza) Hashirimizu Seaweed Festa (10:00 – 14:00, Hashirimizu Reservoir Gateball Field) | 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nagashi-bina |
| 28 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mt. Takeyama Hatsufudo | | | 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needle Mass |
| | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * <i>What's New in Yokosuka comes out again on March 10th!</i> * <i>The schedule posted may be subject to change.</i> |

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