

# Update NEWSLETTER 2

<http://kic-update.com/en/> February 2013 No.269

Kagoshima prefecture and places all over Kyushu are going to hold various events connected with the girls festival! Spring is right there! Enjoy the Japanese spring with the festival and peach trees!

See page 4 for girls' festival events!

## THE GIRLS FESTIVAL ~ A SEASONAL FESTIVAL OF PEACH BLOSSOM ~



The 3rd of March is the girl's festival. People decorate *Hina* dolls and invoke their daughter's good health and growth.

But, originally this event was not for girls. It originated in China. Around AD 300, an event "*Joshi-sestu* (上巳節)" was begun. "*Joshi* (*Jomi* / 上巳)" means the day of the Snake (the sixth of the twelve signs of the Chinese zodiac) early in March. People used to think that devils tend to come inside of houses or their bodies when the seasons change, so they used to purify themselves at the waterside.

Japanese envoys to China during the Tang Dynasty brought this custom back to Japan. Japanese people had a custom of purifying themselves with water before that, and these two customs were merged.

Later, people started to hold "*Kyokusui-no En* (曲水の宴 / providing poems in front of a stream)" as an event for purification on *Joshi*. They also started another custom in which they transferred their uncleanness and bad luck into dolls made with paper, straw and grass (*tachi-bina*), and floated them away.

This custom spread throughout the *samurai* class, and the Tokugawa shogunate established "*Joshi-no Sekku* (上巳の節句 / the seasonal festival of *Joshi*)" as one of five seasonal festivals. Then, this day became "The Girl's Festival (*Hina-matsuri* / 雛祭り)" as opposed to "The Boy's Festival" which is held on the 5th of May.

People also used to make dolls to keep evil spirits away from their children.

The Girl's Festival is also called "*Momo-no Sekku* (桃の節句 / a seasonal festival of peach blossom)". This is not only the season of peach blossom, but people used to think that peach trees were holy trees which removed devils.

On the other hand, in the *Heian* period, girls from the noble classes used to play with paper dolls (*Hina* / *Hiina asobi*). "*Hina* (雛)" means small and cute things.

Later, people began to make a pair of a man and a woman doll to remove their bad luck into. Doll making skill progressed, and gorgeous dolls started to be made. People started to decorate the dolls rather than float them away. Upper-class people started to give gorgeous *hina* dolls as one of a bride's household effects, and people liked the dolls in wedding costumes and with wedding tools.

The Tokugawa shogunate established "*Joshi-no Sekku* (the seasonal festival of *Joshi*)" as one of five seasonal festivals, and *Hina* dolls became a symbol of the financial power of the family. Thus people started to buy *hina* dolls to remove baby girls' bad luck, and celebrate the girls' festival, invoking their good health and growth.



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National Holiday


February 11 (Mon) Kenkoku Kinen-no-Hi

建国記念の日

The Commemoration of the  
Founding of the Nation

# Events

## DOLPHIN PORT ILLUMINATION

(ドルフィン ぽーと いるみねーしょん / ドルフィンポートイルミネーション)  → A

You can enjoy various kinds of illuminations. Dolphins and wave shaped lights glittering on the water, and 260m of lights along the deck are so pretty!

Car park: 750 spaces (30 minutes free)

Date: Until February 28 (Thu)

Time: 17:00 ~ 0:00

Place: Kagoshima Waterfront,  
Kagoshima city

Info: Kagoshima Water Front 099-221-5777

## KAWANABE FUTSUKA MARKET

(KAWANABE FUTSUKA ICHI)

(川辺二日市 / かわなべ ふつか いち)  → B

This is one of the biggest markets in Kagoshima prefecture and it started in *Edo* era by farmers around the area selling straw works and bamboo products.

The street will be turned into a pedestrian precinct and about 400 stalls sell many kinds of things.

A flea market will also be held.

Date: February 2 (Sat) ~ 3 (Sun)

Time: 9:00 ~ 17:00

Place: Kawanabe Town Shopping District,  
Hirayama, Kawanabe town,  
Minami-kyushu city

Info: Minami-kyushu City Shokokai  
Kawanabe Branch 0993-56-0247

## OISEKO (おいせこう / お伊勢講)

Young men wearing women's clothes, monkey

and *tengu* (long-nosed goblin) masks walk around the village wielding Japanese halberds and spears. It is said that if you are touched by these weapons, you can get divine grace.

"Oiseko" is originally a community to collect money for visiting *Ise* Shrine. Around the *Edo* period people dreamed of visiting the shrine, but traveling to *Ise* city in *Mie* prefecture cost a lot and people couldn't afford it. Therefore the community was established.

People decided who goes to the shrine by lots or by turns. Later, people built a shrine in the area and started to have a festival instead.

Date: February 11 (Mon) \*National holiday


Time: (roughly) 14:00 ~ 16:00

Place: Kataura area, Kasasa town,  
Minami-satsuma city

Info: Kasasa Chiiki Shuraku Kominkan /  
0993-63-1111

## KAGIHIKI MATSURI

(HOOK PULLING FESTIVAL)

(かぎひきまつり / 鉤引き祭)  → D

This festival has more than a 300 year history. Local people pull trees (male hook and female hook) which were grown at *Nakatsu* shrine in Kanoya city, and they invoke good crops, growth of forestry and safety. Those trees are about 15 meters long and fork into two branches. People in two teams pull the trees against each other.

Date: February 17 (Sun)

Time: Shinto ritual 10:00 ~  
Hook pulling 14:00 ~

Place: Nakatsu shrine, Kami-takakuma town,  
Kanoya city

Info: Kanoya city hall Takakuma branch /  
0994-45-2001

## HATSU-UMA SAI

(FESTIVAL ON THE FIRST HORSE DAY IN FEBRUARY) (はつうまい / 初午祭)  → E



This festival is Kagoshima shrine's traditional event, which has more than a 460-year history, to pray for good health of domestic animals, good crops and good health of people. The festival was originally held by farmers. Horses decorated with colorful cloth, flowers and many bells around their necks step to festival music.

Date: March 3 (Sun)

Time: 9:30 ~ 16:00

Place: Kagoshima shrine, Hayato town,  
Kirishima city

Info: Executive (Hatsu-uma sai Jikko linkai) /  
0995-45-5111

# Sports

## TANEGASHIMA ROCKET MARATHON

(たねがしまろけっとまらそんたいかい / たねがしまロケットマラソン大会)

The main place for this race is Tanegashima Space Center. There is a full marathon only for 19 plus, half marathon and 10km for 16 plus, 3km for elementary students and up, 2km for family (3 people in a team includes one or more member of elementary school age or younger). The signal for departure is matchlock gun that because Tanegashima Island is famous for being the place where matchlock guns were introduced. A welcome event, JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency in Tanegashima) tour will also be held.

Date: March 17 (Sun)

Time: 7:30 ~ 16:00

Place: Minami-tane town, Kumage county,  
Tanegashima

Participation fee: Adults 4,000 yen  
H.S.Students and below 2,000 yen  
Families 5,000 yen

Deadline: February 12 (Tue)

Info: Executive (Minami-tane Town Office) /  
0997-26-6065

URL: <http://rockemara.jp/index.html>

## SHUNKAN JOGGING RACE

(しゅんかん じょぎんぐ たいかい / 俊寛ジョギング大会)

It is an annual race in memory of a monk *Shunkan*. *Shunkan* lived in the end of the *Heian* era. He planed to subdue *Heike*, but he was caught and was exiled to *Kikai* island. 2km, 5km and 10km courses.


Date & Time: March 4 (Sun)

Time: 8:00 ~

Place: Around the statue of *Shunkan*,  
Kikai town, Kikai Island, Oshima county

Info: Kikai-cho Rikujo Kyokai Jimukyoku /  
0997-65-1111

## DUATHLON IN MINAMI-SATSUMA

(でゅあすらん in みなみさつま / デュアスロン in 南さつま)  → F

Race with run, bike, run. There is a Champion class (run 5km, bike 28km, run 5km) which is only for high school students and up, Challenge class (run 2km, bike 14km, run 2km) which is for junior high school students and up, and Beginner class (run 0.5km, bike 5.6km, run 0.5km) which is for elementary school students. Adults can participate in the beginner class, but can't win prizes. There's a relay category in which 2 people race in a team (one person runs and the other person rides the bike). Try it out!

Date & Time: March 10 (Sun) 7:30 ~ 13:30

Place: Fukiage-hama Kaihin Park, Kaseda,  
Minami-satsuma city

Participation fee:

Champion class H.S.Students 1,500 yen  
Adults 3,000 yen

Challenge and Beginner class

H.S.Students & below 1,000 yen  
Adults 2,000 yen

\*Relay teams need to pay for 2 people.

\*Lunch, insurance and hot spring ticket included in the fee.


Deadline: February 8 (Fri)

Info: Minami-satsuma city hall / 0993-53-2111

URL:

<http://www.city.minamisatsuma.lg.jp/news/2013/16in.html>

## RYOMA HONEYMOON WALK in KIRISHIMA

(りょうま はねむーん うおーく in きりしま / 龍馬ハネムーンウォーク in 霧島)  → G

Historically famous *Ryoma* and his wife *Oryo* had the first ever honeymoon in Japan. You can trace where *Ryoma* and *Oryo* visited in *Kirishima*.

On the 16th, 10km *Kirishima Onsen Course* and 23km *Inukai / Nakatsugawa Course* walk will be held. 20km *Hayato / Amori-gawa Course* walk will be held. On the 17th, 12km *Hana-wa Kirishima Nanohana Course* and 18km *Hayato / Amori-gawa Course* walk will be held. Walk in the early spring air thinking about *Ryoma* and *Oryo*.

You can enter on the day as well.

Date: March 16 (Sat) - 17 (Sun)

Time: Entry 16th 8:00 ~ / 17th 8:30 ~

\*If you want to enter on the day, please enter at least 30 minutes before the race start.

Place: Honeymoon Road, Kirishima city

\*Start and finish points are different depending on the course, so please ask for details at the executive.

Participation fee: Adults 1,800 yen  
J.H.S. & H.S.Students 900 yen  
E.S.Students 400 yen

\*Participation fee for entering on day: Adults 2,000 yen, J.H.S. & H.S.Students 1,000 and E.S.Students 500 yen.

\*Insurance is included in the fee.

\*Lunch will be sold at a special price. Ask about details at the executive.

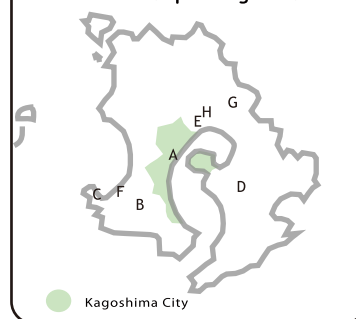
Dead line: February 8 (Fri)

or when the applicants reach the fixed number

(400 ~ 1,000 people, depending on the course)

Info: Kirishima City Tourism Association  
0995-78-2115

Location map - Kagoshima





## Antique & Flea Markets

### KYUSHU KOTTOU MATSURI

#### (KYUSHU ANTIQUE FAIR)

(きゅうしゅう こっとう まつり / 九州骨董祭り)  
Calligraphy, paintings, crockery, swords, tea ceremony tools, old money and other things will be sold. You might find something valuable?!

Date: March 23 (Sat) & 24 Sun

Time: 8:00 ~ 17:00

Place: Sky Road Mizobe, Mizobe town,  
Kirishima city

Info: Executive (Enokizono-san) / 090-8411-3336

## Stage

### TAKARAZUKA REVUE

#### OG GRAND SHOW "Ca, c'est Paris"

(宝塚歌劇団OGランドショー「サ・セ・パリⅡ」)

A great show by former top stars of Takarazuka Revue! They perform the famous "The Rose of Versailles" and "When the white lilacs bloom again". Enjoy their gorgeous costumes, entertaining songs and beautiful dance.

Date: February 2 (Sat)

Time: 18:30

Place: Izumi-shi Bunka Kaikan,

Bunka town, Izumi city

Ticket: Adults S seat 5,000 yen

A seat 4,500 yen

H.S.Students and below

S seat 3,000 yen

A seat 2,500 yen

\*All reserved seats.

Info: Izumi-shi Chuo Kominkan 0996-63-2106

### SHIKI THEATER COMPANY

#### GANBA-no DAI-BOKEN

##### (GANBA'S GREAT ADVENTURE)

(劇団四季オリジナルミュージカル ガンバの大冒険)

Beloved musical since their first showing in 1976.

Date: March 20 (Wed)

Time: 17:30

Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 1, Yojiro,  
Kagoshima city

Ticket: S seat 4,000 yen / A seat 3,000 yen

\*All reserved seats.

Info: Kagoshima Onkyo / 099-226-3465

### SHIKI THEATER COMPANY

#### GANBA-no DAI-BOKEN

##### (GANBA'S GREAT ADVENTURE)

(劇団四季オリジナルミュージカル ガンバの大冒険)

Beloved musical since their first showing in 1976.

Date: March 21 (Thu)

Time: 18:30

Place: Shibushi-shi Bunka Kaikan,  
Shibushi, Shibushi town, Shibushi city

Ticket: S seat 4,000 yen / A seat 3,000 yen

B seat 2,000 yen

\*All reserved seats.

\*Half price for H.S.Students and below.

Info: Shibushi-shi Bunka Kaikan

099-472-3050

### IKKOKU-DO SUPER LIVE 2013

(いっこく堂スーパーライブ2013)

Ikkokudo, a popular ventriloquist is coming to Kagoshima!

Date: April 13 (Sat)

Time: 17:30

Place: Hozan Hall (Ken Bunka Center),  
Yamashita-cho, Kagoshima city

Ticket: 4,500 yen \*All reserved seats.

Info: Hozan Hall (Ken Bunka Center)

099-223-4221

Info: Kagoshima Onkyo / 099-226-3465

## Kyushu Events

### FUKUOKA

#### MOJIKO RETRO "FUGU-to AKARI-to

##### HINAMATSURI

#### (MOJI PORT RETRO "PUFFER FISH AND LIGHTS AND DOLL'S FESTIVAL)

(門司港レトロ「ふぐと灯りとひなまつり」)

Mojiko used to be one of the biggest trading ports in the Meiji, The Taisho and the beginning of the Showa period. Elegant western buildings still stand in rows in the town. This is one of the biggest events in Moji. Trees and buildings at Mojiko retro area are illuminated with 300,000 lights (from dusk till 22:00, until February 24th). The shopping center is lit with the soft lights of Japanese lanterns shaped like puffer fish during the period (17:00 ~ 21:00).

Hina dolls are also decorated all over the town during this festival.

Date: February 2 (Sat) - March 24 (Sun)

Place: Moji area, Kita-kyushu city

(about 10minutes from Moji IC.)

Info: Mojiko Station Tourist Information Center

093-321-6110

URL: <http://www.mojiko.info/>

### NAGASAKI

#### NAGASAKI LANTERN FESTIVAL

(長崎ランタンフェスティバル)

This is a beautiful festival with 15,000 Chinese lantern lights, a Chinese emperor parade, Chinese circus show, a Dragon dance performance, a Lion dance performance and other events!

This festival was originally "Spring Festival" which is a festival to celebrate the new year. The streets are filled with an air of exoticism!

Date: February 10 (Sun) - February 24 (Sun)

Place: Various places in Nagasaki city

Info: Nagasaki Lantern Festival Jikko linkai

095-829-1314

URL:

<http://www.nagasaki-lantern.com/index.html>

### SAGA

#### ARITA HIINA-no YAKIMONO MATSURI

##### (ARITA DOLLS CHINAWARE FESTIVAL)

(有田雛のやきものまつり)

The chinaware town, Arita will hold a festival! Chinaware hina-dolls will be decorated at potteries and shops in the town. Special hina-dolls made by Arita ware potteries, Meissen in Germany and Lladro in Spain will be exhibited.

Date: February 9 (Sat) ~

March 20 (Wed / National

holiday)

Place: Arita town, Nishi-matsuura county

Info: Arita Tourist Information Center /

0955-43-2121

#### TAKEO SEKAI-ICHI HIRYU-GAMA TORO

##### MATSURI

#### (TAKEO THE WORLD'S BIGGEST HIRYU

##### POTTERY LANTERN FESTIVAL)

(TAKEO・世界一飛龍窯灯ろう祭り)

4,000 lanterns will be lit around the world's biggest Hiryu pottery. In the pottery, there are four rooms as big as a bus each. You can enjoy a St.Valentine's Day Special Cake, A making mini lanterns class and a sale of pottery. Some events such as a Love Game, acoustic concert and other things will be held.

Free shuttle service will be operated from JR Takeo Onsen Station to Hiryu pottery.

Date: February 19 (Sat) ~ February 10 (Sun)

Place: Hiryu Pottery, Takeuchi town, Takeo city

Info: Takeo city hall 0954-23-9237

URL: <http://hiryuvalentine.sagafan.jp/>

### KUMAMOTO

#### YAMAGA TOURO ROMAN (山鹿灯籠浪漫)

This event is full of fascination with graceful Yamaga touro dance, the row of houses and streets of Meiji and Showa period, warm lights of golden lanterns, fantastic world of paper art lights and good onsens.

Date: Every Friday & Saturday

during February 1 (Fri) - February 23 (Sat)

Time: 19:00 ~ 22:00

Place: Various places in Yamaga city

Info: Yamaga Onsen Tourism Association /

0968-43-2952

URL: <http://yamaga100.com/>

#### ASO-no HIMATSURI (ASO FIRE FESTIVAL)

(阿蘇の火まつり)

This is a spring festival invoking good crops. The opening event, "Aso-no Daimonji-yaki (Making a huge Chinese character "火" on a slope of Aso mountain with torchlights) will be held on the 9th of March (sat) from 18:30! You can't miss it! There are more events such as stage performances including Kagura dances from 15:00, special taiko performance by the famous taiko troop "TAO" from 18:30 and a fireworks display will also be held from 19:20 on this day!

During the period, many towns and villages hold various events. "Kagura Dance and Soba Workshop (500 yen / person)" will be held on the 17th of March at Namino-kagura-en. "Aso-no Hiburi (Ritual of Sacred Fire)" will be held on the 24th of March (Sat) 18:00 ~ 20:00 at Aso shrine.

Enjoy spring here in Kumamoto!

Date & Time:

Aso-no Daimonji-yaki March 9 (Sat) 18:30 ~  
Kagura Dance and Soba Workshop March 17 (Sun)  
Aso-no Hiburi March 19 (Tue)

Place:

Aso-no Daimonji-yaki → Hana-aso-bi,  
Ozato, Aso city

Kagura Dance and Soba Workshop →

Aso

Aso-no Hiburi March 19 (Tue) →

Aso shrine, Ichinomiya-miyaji, Aso city

Info:

Aso-no Daimonji-yaki →

Aso-no Hi-matsuri Jikko linkai 0967-24-5117

Kagura Dance and Soba Workshop →

Aso Tourism Association 0967-32-1960

Aso-no Hiburi March 19 (Tue) →

Aso Tourism Association 0967-32-1960

### MIYAZAKI

#### TAKACHIHO YOKAGURA

(高千穂の夜神楽)

Kagura dances are national intangible cultural treasures. They reenact the birth of Japan's Shinto gods, and are performed in 33 scenes, wearing spectacular costumes and masks. The 33 scenes of Yokagura dance will take place all night. The dance about people welcoming gods, where they become friendly and people then see gods go back to heaven, is very famous in Japan.

\*Takachiho Kanko Yokagura takes place all year from 20:00 to 21:00 at Takachiho Shrine as well (admission fee: adult 500yen). This is performed only the 4th scene of 33 scenes.

Date: Until February 10 (Sun)

Place: Amano Iwado Shrine and various places  
in Takachiho town

Info: Takachiho Tourist Association /

0982-73-1213

#### GOKASE HIGHLAND SKI RESORT OPEN

(五ヶ瀬ハイランドスキー場オープン)

Gokase Highland Ski Resort, the only ski resort in Kyushu is open this winter, too!

They have ski school and snowboard school, a day nursery and a restaurant. They rent ski equipment (adults 5000 yen / children 4000 yen), snowboard and wear (adults 5,500 yen / children 4,500 yen). Enjoy skiing in Kyushu!

Date: Until start of March

Time: 8:00 ~ 16:30

Place: Gokase town, Nishi-usuki county

Gokase Highland / 0982-83-2144

URL: <http://www.gokase.co.jp/ski/>

# Girls' Festival Events in Kagoshima and Kyushu

Kagoshima prefecture holds big event which is called "Atsuhime-no Hina-matsuri"! Hina dolls will be displayed and many events connected with girls' festival will be held at JR stations, sightseeing facilities, hotels, inns Kagoshima city, Kirishima city, Ibusuki city, Minami-kyushu city, Satsuma-sendai city and Hitoyoshi city in Kumamoto prefecture. Enjoy spring, many events, tasty sweets and dishes from all over Kagoshima and Kyushu!



## ~ About Atsuhime ~

NHK drama "Atsuhime" made this lady very famous and popular.

She was born into the *Imazumi-shimazu* family which was a branch family of the *Shimazu* clan in *Satsuma*. Later she became the wife of *Tokugawa Iesada* (徳川 家定), the 13th *Shogun* of the *Tokugawa* shogunate of Japan.

So, after the marriage she lived in *Edo* and never came back to *Satsuma*; she dedicated her life to the *Tokugawa* shogunate. Many researchers are still studying about her and her life.

Visit places associated with *Atsuhime* and think of her life!

## Sengan-en Spring Festival

(*Sengan-en Haru Matsuri* / 仙巖園はるまつり)

Sengan-en (Iso garden), the beautiful garden which was a summer villa of the Shimazu family will hold popular annual historical events. During the period, traditional hanging ornaments will be decorated along the souvenir shops in the garden. Special menus will be offered at the restaurant and the cafe for a limited time

## HINA DOLLS AND MATERIALS EXHIBITION

(*NINGYO-to HINA DOUGU TEN* / 人形と雛道具展)

An annual exhibition of dolls displayed on the Girl's Festival Day. About 99 kinds, 407 dolls and materials were brought by *Takehime*, the daughter of the 5th Shogun *Tokugawa Tsunayoshi*, when she married *Shimazu*, the lord of *Satsuma*.

Date: February 2 (Sat) ~ April 7 (Sun)

Time: 8:30 - 17:20

Place: Shoko Shusei-kan (Next to Sengan-en), Yoshino town, Kagoshima city

\*You need to pay entrance fee to enter the garden.



## Making Satsuma-itobina Class

(*Satsuma-itobina Kyoshitsu* / 薩摩糸びな教室)

200 years ago, hina dolls in Kagoshima were called Itobina. They were simple and made of bamboo, stick and paper. It was so simple that it was difficult to tell which was men or women, so they distinguished it by the Kimono pattern on the paper. The Itobina is one of Kagoshima's traditional craft works. You can have a great opportunity to make Itobina!

\*Booking required.

Date: February 24 (Sun)

Time: 13:00 ~ 15:00 / Entry 12:00 ~

Place: Sengan-en

Fee: 2,000 yen / person

\*Materials included.

\*You need to pay entrance fee as well to enter the garden.



Capacity: 40 people

Purify yourself by floating tiny paper dolls on a boat down a stream!

## Paper dolls floated downriver

(*Nagashi-bina* / 流しびな)

*Sengan-en* has a beautiful meandering stream where people used to enjoy "Kyokusui-no En". "Kyokusui-no En" is a traditional event in which people compose a *tanka* before a *sake* cup floats down to them.

In this season, this stream becomes the place to float away your own foulness and bad luck. Join this traditional event only for girls and ladies, and grab good luck!

\*Booking required.

Date: March 3 (Sun)

Time: 13:00 ~ 14:00

Place: Sengan-en, Kagoshima city

Fee: 2,000 yen / person

\*Hina-doll for sending down-stream included.

Capacity: 60 people



## Hina dolls Exhibition at Samurai Residences (at Fumoto, Izumi City)

(*Izumi Fumoto Bukeyashiki* / 出水麓武家屋敷)

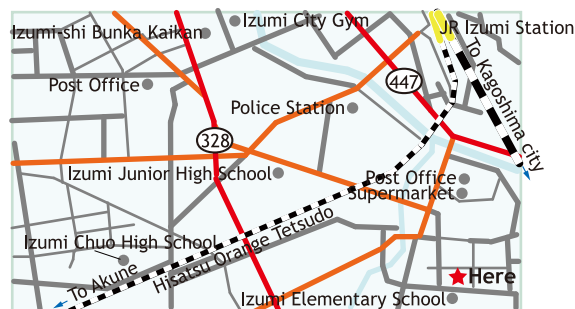
Take Family residence and Saisho Family residence will exhibit hina dolls in various places in the houses. Enjoy various hina dolls, and an elegant and gorgeous world.

Date: February 1 (Fri) ~ March 31 (Sun)

Time: 9:00 ~ 17:00

Place: Fumoto town, Izumi city

Tel: Izumi City Hall 0996-63-4061



## SENGAN-EN (仙巖園) / ISO GARDEN (磯庭園)

Place: 9700-1 Yoshino town, Kagoshima city

Tel: 099-247-1551

Entrance fee:

*Teien* Course (only for garden and *Shoko Shusei-kan*)

Adult 1000 yen

Elementary & J.H.S.Student 500 yen

*Goten* Course (*Teien* Course and residence)

Adult 1500 yen

Elementary & J.H.S.Student 750 yen

\**Maccha* (green tea) & a Japanese sweets are included in *Goten* Course.

Car Park: 500 spaces

Open: 8:30 ~ 17:30

\*Open throughout the year

URL: <http://www.senganen.jp/access.html>





## Girls' Festival in Hitoyoshi

(Hitoyoshi Kuma-wa Hina-matsuri/  
人吉球磨は、ひなまつり)

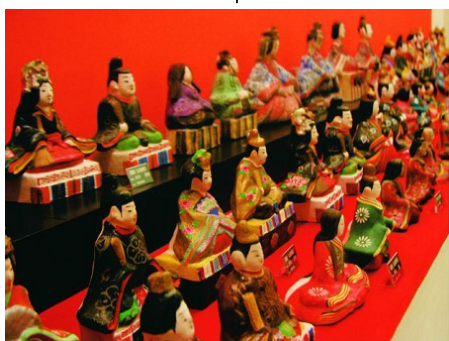
The Kuma area is famous as a castle town of the Sagara clan. The Kuma river is considered to be one of the three most rapid rivers in Japan (the other two being Mogami River and Fuji River) and it is a popular tourist spot. About 70,000 tourists take a ride on the river every year. Spa and shochu are also popular here. Craft Park Ishino Park, Hitoyoshi Ohina Street (Kokonoka-machi and Itsuka-machi), Hitoyoshi Ohina Street (Kajiya machi) and Sentoku temple and 100 other places will exhibit hina dolls.

Date: February 1 (Fri) ~ March 31 (Sun)



Sentoku temple chief priest collected 3,000 hina dolls over many years. It is worth seeing!

Hitoyoshi Craft Park exhibit clay hina dolls and folk toys from all over Japan.



### Lunch Hina Gozen

Enjoy a special menu only for this period. "Hina Gozen (Hina Meal)" is made with tasty, fresh ingredients harvested in the Kuma area of Hitoyoshi city. Ryokans in Hitoyoshi Spa offer the meal.

Time: 11:00 ~ 14:00

Fee: Ohina Gozen 2,625 yen

Ohina Kaiseki 4,200 yen

\*Booking required the day before you go.

\*2 people and more

\*Each ryokan offers its own original meal.



## Other Girls' Festival Events in Kyushu

### CHIKUGO-YOSHII OHINA-SAMA MEGURI

#### (CHIKUGO-YOSHII HINA-DOLLS TOUR)

(筑後吉井おひなさまめぐり)

Walk along the town which is famous for Japanese traditional warehouses with white walls. You will feel as if you had been transported back through time. This town's original hina dolls are decorated such as "Hako-bina" and "Okage". You can travel in a ricksha on Sundays (500 yen / person).

Date: February 10 (Sun) - April 3 (Wed)

Place: Around Shirakabe Street,

Yoshii town, Ukiha city

Info: Chikugo-yoshii Ohina-sama Meguri

Jikko linkai 0943-76-3980

URL: <http://www.crossroadfukuoka.jp/event/?mode=detail&id=4000000001373>



### YANAGAWA HINAMATSURI SAGEMON MEGURI

#### (YANAGAWA DOLLS FESTIVAL SAGEMON TOUR)

(柳川雛祭りさげもんめぐり)

Dolls festival is a Japanese traditional festival to invoke the happiness and growth of girls. People decorate gorgeous dolls for the day of March 3rd.

In Yanagawa, people also decorate "sagemon" which is the decoration of cranes, rabbits and other good luck symbols sewn on vertical threads. Yanagawa special Dolls Festival decorations are at some places including the houses which celebrate their daughters first Dolls festival.

"Hina festival parade (Ohina-sama Hajime-kai)" will be held on February 11 (Mon).

"Hina doll water parade (Ohina-sama Suijo Parade)" will be held on March 17 (Sun) from 11:00 to 12:20.

\* In case of rain, "Hina doll water parade" will be postponed until March 20 (Wed / national holiday).

Date: February 11 (Mon) - April 3 (Wed)

\*February 11th is a national holiday.

Place: Yanagawa shopping district and around Okinohata, Yanagawa city

Info: Yanagawa City Tourist Information Center

0944-74-0891

URL: <http://www.yanagawa-net.com/new.php>



## The basic philosophy of Satsuma

### Jissinko Iroha-uta (日新公いろは歌) vol.35

Iroha-uta is originally a Japanese short poem. It is a perfect pangram, containing each character of the Japanese syllabary (hiragana) exactly once.

Jissinko iroha-uta are 47 poems each of which begin, respectively, with the original iroha poems first syllabary.

They also became the spirit of Goju Kyoiku (郷中教育: The Satsuma education system).

The thirty-third poem (starting with the letter "て"):

敵となる人こそはわが師匠ぞと おもひかへて身をもたしなめ

(Teki-to Naru Hito-kosowa Waga Sisho-zoto

Omoi Kaeshite Mi-womo Tashiname)

Your enemy is actually your master. When you think about it, he gives you the stimulus to refine yourself. So, consider this and enhance yourself.

きさらぎ  
如月 (Kisaragi)

Japanese has a different name for each month. We call February, "Ni-gatsu" usually, but we also have another name "Kisaragi". About the meaning of "Kisaragi" there are several opinions. Some people say it is the month of regeneration of grass and trees and others say it is the season that people wear more clothes.

## Kisaragi calendar

### 立春 (Risshun)

February 4 (Mon)

The start of the year and spring in the lunar calendar. People say from this day the weather gets warm.

### 針供養 (Hari Kuyo)

February 8 (Fri)

It is a custom in which people hold a memorial service for broken needles. In the *Kansai* area, this is held on the 8th of December.

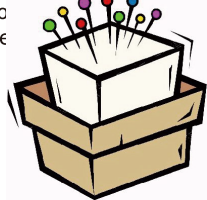
In days past, needlework was indispensable for women, so appreciating the value of needles and holding a memorial service for them was an important event.

Now, this custom is held only by people who use them for their work. They stick needles in *tofu* or *konnyaku* and pray for improvement of sewing. Then the needles are offered at a household shrine altar. After that people purify the offering by floating it downriver to the sea, or taking it to a shrine.

### 初午 (Hatsu-uma)

February 9 (Sat)

*Hatsu-uma* is the first day of the Horse in February. It is the day of the *Inari* shrine festival. *Inari* shrine is where the god of the harvest is worshipped. You can see fox statues in front of the shrine. They say foxes are messengers.



### 建国記念の日

(Kenkoku kinen no hi)

February 11 (Mon)

According to "*Nihon Shoki*" the oldest Japanese book, *Jinmu tenno* became the first emperor on this day in 666 BC. It became a national holiday in 1967 as the day of "considering the foundation of the country and cultivating the mind for a patriotic spirit".

### 雨水 (Usui)

February 18 (Mon)

"*Usui*" means "the season the snow changes into rain and ice changes into water". People start to prepare for farming.

## SETSUBUN (節分)

-The Day to Oust Evil Spirits  
from Your House-  
February 3rd (Sun)



### What is Setsubun?

*Setsubun* is the day before the beginning of spring. Originally it meant the day before the beginning of spring, summer, autumn and winter. Now, it means only the day before the beginning of spring, which is the day of the start of the year in the lunar calendar.

### What people do on this day?

On this day, people scatter parched soybeans, shouting "*Oni-wa Soto, Fuku-wa Uchi*" which means "Out with the devil! In with good fortune!" to get rid of evil spirits. Usually the head of a family scatters the soybeans, but recently somebody in the family puts on the ogre mask and others throw the soybeans at the person. When you throw them, start with the innermost room and proceed to the front of the house. After that people eat parched soybeans (eat the same number as your age), because it's said that if you eat them you can be healthy for the year.

### What else do people eat?

Recently, people also eat a whole "*Futo-maki* / *Eho-maki*" (you shouldn't cut it) facing the good luck direction of the year, in silence. When you eat it, invoke your wish. (The good direction for 2012 is north-northwest.)

### What do people decorate?

Depending on the area, people put a grilled sardine head and a holly branch at their front door as good-luck charms. They think devils run away because of the bad smell of grilled sardine and the holly thorns.



## Fortune-telling

February 1 ~ February 28



### January Birthday:

Forgiving people makes you calm and happy. It also makes you improve. Using the right side of your brain is also good: paint pictures, sing songs or dance.

### February Birthday:

Find somebody you can respect or you want to be like. And, mimic the way the person studies or the person's behavior. It increases your ability.

### March Birthday:

Your environment might change a lot this month. You might be worried or feel lonely. But, it is the month of movement for you and the month of preparation for the future. So accept the new environment and try to get used to it.

### April Birthday:

Be honest with yourself and other people. If you think it is right, tell others. Things go smoothly towards the direction which you hope. The important thing is honesty and truth.

### May Birthday:

You've started getting tired with various events and relationships. You need to find time to be by yourself and relax.

### June Birthday:

You might be having some troubles with others. It is easy to solve them. When you feel "no", say so. Let other people know what you don't like.

### July Birthday:

Realize things which you should be grateful for in your daily life and thank these things. Then you will be given more pleasure.

### August Birthday:

You're a part of nature. Go outside and feel the air, listen to birds or the sound of a stream. It makes your mind clear.

### September Birthday:

Set your aim higher and do your very best. Imagine your great success. It will come true.

### October Birthday:

Just saying things doesn't mean anything. You need to make things come true. Teamwork is the key for success.

### November Birthday:

When you feel stress, remember to breathe deeply. It calms you down and makes your mind clear.

### December Birthday:

If you have a difficult choice, think it over with a night of good sleep. If there is no solution, just let it go.

\* The dates above depend on the lunar calendar, so they change every year.



# Movie Guide

★ Foreign movie ☆ Japanese movie

<b>TOHO Cinemas Yojiro</b> 東宝シネマズ与次郎 Phone: 099-206-6544 (Frespo Jungle Park 2F)	★ The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (December 14 ~) ☆ ONE PIECE FILM Z (December 15 ~) ★ Les Misérables (December 21 ~) ☆ Blue Exorcist / 青の祓魔師 (December 28 ~) ★ Taken 2 (January 11 ~) ☆ HUNTER×HUNTER / HUNTER×HUNTER 緋色の幻影 (January 12 ~) ★ Looper (January 12 ~) ★ Ted (January 18 ~) ☆ Tokyo Kazoku / 東京家族 (January 19 ~) ☆ Go-Busters VS Gokaiger / 特命戦隊ゴーバスターズVS海賊戦隊ゴーカイジャー ★ Life of Pi (January 25 ~)	☆ Strawberry Night / ストロベリーナイト (January 26 ~) ☆ Tsuya-no Yoru / つやのよる ある愛に関わった、女たちの物語 (January 26 ~) ☆ DOCUMENTARY OF AKB48 NO FLOWER WITHOUT RAIN (February 1 ~) ★ JACK REACHER (February 1 ~) ☆ Kiirou Zou / きいろいゾウ (February 2 ~) ★ Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (February 2 ~) ☆ No-otoko / 脳男 (February 9 ~) ★ MONSTERS, INC. 3D (February 9 ~) ★ A Good Day to Die Hard (February 14 ~) ★ Zero Dark Thirty (February 15 ~) ☆ Sogen-no Isu / 草原の椅子 (February 23 ~)
<b>Mitte 10</b> ミッテ 10 Phone: 099-812-6662 (Amu Plaza 6F)	☆ Evangelion: 3.0 You Can (Not) Redo / エヴァンゲリオン (November 17 ~) ☆ Kyo, Koi-wo Hajimemasu / 今日、恋をはじめます (December 8 ~) ★ The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (December 14 ~) ☆ ONE PIECE FILM Z (December 15 ~) ★ Les Misérables (December 21 ~) ★ Taken 2 (January 11 ~) ☆ HUNTER×HUNTER / HUNTER×HUNTER 緋色の幻影 (January 12 ~) ☆ [Geki×Cine] Dokuro-jo-no Shichi-nin / ゲキ×シネ 髑髏城の7人 (January 12 ~) ★ Looper (January 12 ~) ☆ KON-SHIN / 渾身 (January 12 ~) ☆ Tokyo Kazoku / 東京家族 (January 19 ~) ☆ Go-Busters VS Gokaiger / 特命戦隊ゴーバスターズVS海賊戦隊ゴーカイジャー ★ Life of Pi (January 25 ~) ☆ Strawberry Night / ストロベリーナイト (January 26 ~)	★ Salmon Fishing in the Yemen ☆ Tsuya-no Yoru / つやのよる ある愛に関わった、女たちの物語 (January 26 ~) ☆ DOCUMENTARY OF AKB48 NO FLOWER WITHOUT RAIN (February 1 ~) ★ JACK REACHER (February 1 ~) ☆ Berserk Golden Age Arc III: Descent / ベルセルク 黄金時代篇III 降臨 (February 1 ~) ☆ Kiirou Zou / きいろいゾウ (February 2 ~) ★ Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (February 2 ~) ☆ No-otoko / 脳男 (February 9 ~) ★ A Good Day to Die Hard (February 14 ~) ★ Zero Dark Thirty (February 15 ~) ★ Hindenburg (February 16 ~) ★ Masquerade (Korean)(February 16 ~) ☆ Sogen-no Isu / 草原の椅子 (February 23 ~)
<b>Gardens Cinema</b> ガーデنز シネマ 099-222-8746 (Maruya Gardens 7F)	☆ Like Someone in Love (Japanese) (January 26 ~) ★ 7 DIAS EN LA HABANA (Spanish, English) (February 2 ~) ★ Eu când vreau să fluier, fluier (Romanian) (February 2 ~) ★ IL DIVO (Italian) (February 2 ~)	
<b>Tenmonkan Cinema Paradise</b> 天文館シネマパラダイス Phone: 099-216-8833 (LAZO Omote Sando 3F)	☆ Nobou-no Shiro / のぼうの城 (November 2 ~) ★ You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger (December 1 ~) ☆ GOOD MORNING EVERYONE! / グッモーエビアン! (December 15 ~) ★ W.E. (December 15 ~) ★ Les Misérables (December 21 ~) ★ La nostra vita (Italian) (February 2 ~)	★ The Strawberry Statement (February 9 ~) ★ I Girasoli (Italian) (January 19 ~) ★ Another Country (February 16 ~) ★ Mistérios de Lisboa (Portuguese, French) (February 16 ~) ★ Michel Petrucciani - Leben gegen die Zeit (English, French) (February 16 ~)
<b>Rena Theater Kanoya</b> リナシアター Phone: 0994-35-1001 (Rena city Kanoya 3F)	☆ Nobou-no Shiro / のぼうの城 (February 2 ~)	

## Movies on TV

### February

- |    |       |      |   |
|----|-------|------|---|
| 1  | 13:00 | BS-P | The Yellow Handkerchief [Dr]                          |
|    | 23:45 | BS-P | RENT [M]  |
| 2  | 21:00 | BS-P | Spider-Man 2 [Ac][SF]                                 |
| 3  | 19:00 | BS-N | Hairspray [M][C]                                      |
|    | 20:00 | BS11 | The Full Monty [C]                                    |
| 5  | 21:00 | BS-J | The Towering Inferno                                  |
| 8  | 2:58  | BS-J | El laberinto del fauno / Pan's Labyrinth [F](Spanish) |
|    | 21:00 | KYT  | Taken [Ac][S]   |
|    | 23:45 | BS-P | Valentines's Day [L]                                  |
| 9  | 19:30 | BS-P | Spider-Man 2 [Ac][SF]                                 |
| 10 | 20:00 | BS11 | Les Petroleuses [C][W] (French)                       |
| 11 | 9:00  | BS-P | Le Concert [Dr] (French)                              |
| 12 | 13:00 | BS-P | The Wind And The Lion [H]                             |
| 13 | 13:00 | BS-P | The Maltese Falcon [S]                                |
| 14 | 13:00 | BS-P | Fanfan la Tulipe [Ad] (French)                        |
|    | 21:00 | BS-T | Le Petit Nicolas [C] (French)                         |
| 15 | 3:28  | BS-J | Frozen River [Dr]                                     |
|    | 13:00 | BS-P | Tchaikovsky [Dr] (Russian)                            |
|    | 23:45 | BS-P | Bridget Jones's Diary[LC]                             |

- |    |       |       |  |
|----|-------|-------|--|
| 17 | 18:30 | Dlife | Love Actually [LC]                     |
| 18 | 3:00  | Dlife | Il Ciclone [LC] (Italian)              |
|    | 13:00 | BS-P  | City Lights [D][C]                     |
|    | 21:00 | BS-P  | The Pursuit of Happyness [Dr]          |
|    | 21:00 | BS-J  | How to Kill Your Neighbor's Dog [C]    |
| 19 | 13:00 | BS-P  | The Great Dictator [Dr]                |
| 20 | 13:00 | BS-P  | Modern Times [Dr]                      |
| 21 | 21:00 | BS-T  | Dave [C][Dr]                           |
| 22 | 2:58  | BS-J  | Soul Kitchen [C] (German)              |
|    | 23:45 | BS-P  | Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason [LC] |
| 24 | 19:00 | BS-T  | Seven Pounds [D]                       |
| 25 | 13:00 | BS-P  | Juno [D]                               |
|    | 21:00 | BS-P  | Pretty Woman [LC]                      |
|    | 21:00 | BS-J  | Mother And Child [Dr]                  |
| 26 | 13:00 | BS-P  | Harvey [C]                             |
| 27 | 13:00 | BS-P  | The Glenn Miller Story [Dr]            |
| 28 | 13:00 | BS-P  | Mr. Smith Goes to Washington           |
|    | 21:00 | BS-T  | The Accidental Tourist                 |

KKB = Digital 5  
 KTS = Digital 8  
 KYT = Digital 4

BS-P = BS Premium  
 BS-A = BS Asahi  
 BS-J = BS Japan  
 BS-N = BS Nittele  
 BS-T = BS TBS  
 BS-F = BS Fuji  
 TwTV = TwellV

\* Schedules are subject to change without notice.

\*\* This information is as of December 31.

[Ac] = Action [Ad] = Adventure [An] = Animated film [C] = Comedy  
 [Dc] = Documentary [Dr] = Drama [Ds] = Disaster [F] = Fantasy  
 [H] = Historical drama [Ho] = Horror [L] = Love Story [LC] = Love  
 Comedy [M] = Musical [S] = Suspense [SF] = SF [W] = Western  
 [Wa] = War Movie

# Music

## ANGELA AKI Concert Tour 2012-2013 BLUE

- Pop  
Date: February 10 (Sun)  
Time: 17:00  
Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 1,  
Yojiro, Kagoshima city  
Ticket: 6,900 yen  
\*All reserved seats  
Info: Kyodo Nishi-nippon 092-714-0159

## TAKASHI HAMAZAKI "LIFE WORKS LIVE ~Since2011

- Funk, J-Pop  
(浜崎貴司 弾き語りツアー "LIFE WORKS LIVE ~  
Since2011/終わりになきひとり旅" sono37)  
Date: February 11 (Mon / National holiday)  
Time: 17:00  
Place: Live HEAVEN, Tenmonkan,  
Kagoshima city  
Ticket: 4,500 yen (+ 1 Drink)  
\*All unreserved seats  
Info: BEA 092-712-4221

## Kohshi Kishita LIVE My Real Voice Vol.3 (木下航志)

- Jazz, J-Pop  
Date: February 15 (fri)  
Time: 19:30  
Place: Live HEAVEN, Tenmonkan,  
Kagoshima city  
Advance ticket: 2,500 yen (+ 1 Drink)  
At the door: 3,000 yen (+ 1 Drink)  
\*All unreserved seats  
Info: K&M Corporation 099-223-7710

## THE GOSPELLERS

- J-POP, a cappella  
Date: February 17 (Sun)  
Time: 17:30  
Place: Shibushi Bunka Kaikan,  
Shibushi, Shibushi city  
Ticket: 6,000 yen \*All reserved seat  
Info: K&M Corporation 099-223-7710

## Yoshida Brothers

- Tsugaru-jamisen  
(吉田兄弟)  
Date: February 17 (Sun)  
Time: 18:30  
Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 1,  
Yojiro, Kagoshima city  
Ticket: A seat 5,800 yen / B seat 5,300 yen  
All reserved seat  
Info: MIN-ON Kagoshima 099-226-2433

## KAZUE SAWAI

- Japanese Koto  
(沢井一恵 箏360°の眼差し)  
Date: February 17 (Sun)  
Time: 14:00  
Place: Miyama Conseru,  
Makizono town, Kirishima city  
Ticket: Adults 3,000 yen  
H.S.Students & below 1,500 yen  
\*All unreserved seats  
Info: Miyama Conseru 0995-78-8000

## THE JAPAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHES- TRA in Kyushu 2013

(日本フィル in kyushu 2013 鹿児島公演)  
Date: February 21 (Thu)  
Time: 19:00  
Place: Hozan Hall (Ken Bunka Center),  
Yamashita-cho, Kagoshima city  
Advance ticket: S seat 6,500 yen  
A seat 5,500 yen  
B seat 4,500 yen  
Tickets for a parent & a child 8,000 yen  
for a parent & 2 children 12,000 yen  
\*+500 yen at the door  
\*All reserved seats  
Info: Executive 099-814-4277

## NARIMICHI KAWABATA CONCERT

(川畠成道 第2回故郷がえりコンサート) - Violin  
Date: February 22 (Fri)  
Time: 18:30  
Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 2,  
Yojiro, Kagoshima city  
Ticket: Adults  
S seat 5,000 yen / A seat 4,000 yen  
\*Half fare for Students (E.S.- University)  
\*All reserved seats  
Info: Kagoshima Onkyo 099-226-3465

## Kagoshima Music LIVE

- Pop  
Date: February 23 (Sat)  
Time: 17:00  
Place: Hozan Hall (Ken Bunka Center),  
Yamashita-cho, Kagoshima city  
Ticket: 2,500 yen  
\*+500 yen at the door  
\*All unreserved seats  
Info: Hozan Hall 099-223-4221

## THE BAWDIES 1-2-3 TOUR 2013

- Rock  
Date: February 28 (Thu)  
Time: 19:00  
Place: CAPARVO Hall, Tenmonkan,  
Kagoshima city  
Ticket: 3,300 yen (+ 1 Drink) \*Standing space  
Info: Kyodo Nishi-nippon 092-714-0159

## 10-FEET "thread" TOUR 2012-2013

- Rock  
Date: May 6 (Mon / National holiday)  
Time: 18:00  
Place: CAPARVO Hall, Tenmonkan,  
Kagoshima city  
Advanced ticket: 2,800 yen (+ 1 Drink)  
At the door: 3,300 yen (+ 1 Drink)  
Standing space  
Info: TSUKUSU 092-771-9009



# Art

## KAGOSHIMA CITY MUSEUM OF ART

4-36 Shiroyama cho, Kagoshima city  
099-224-3400 / 9:30 ~ 18:00 / Closed Mondays  
Entrance fee: Adults 300 yen

## KEISHIRO KINOWAKI EXHIBITION

(木脇啓四郎描く一幕末・明治の薩摩藩文化官僚の画業)  
- Copies of paintings, landscapes, genre paintings  
and others  
Works by Keishiro Kinowaki (1817~1899), a govern-  
ment official in the Satsuma domain.  
February 13 (Wed) ~ March 31 (Sun)

## YOSHIYUKI CHOSA EXHIBITION

-Metal-carving  
(帖佐美行の用と美 ~彫金に込めた生命の輝き~)  
December 26 (Wed) ~  
February 11 (Mon / National holiday)

## NAGASHIMA MUSEUM

3-42-18 Take, Kagoshima city  
099-250-5400 / 9:00-17:00  
Entrance fee: Adult 1000 yen  
Lunch: 1890 yen (week days only)  
2100 yen - 3150 yen (others)

## MARC CHAGALL EXHIBITION "DAPHNIS ET CHLOÉ"

(マルク・シャガール版画展 「ダフニスとクロエ」) - Prints  
February 5 (Fri) ~ May 6 (Mon / national holiday)

## MIYAKE MUSEUM

1-4319-4 Taniyama-chuo, Kagoshima city  
099-266-0066 / 10:00 - 16:30 /  
Closed Wednesdays & May 3 ~ 6  
Entrance fee: Adults 300 yen  
Lunch: 11:00 - 14:00 / 750 yen - 1100 yen  
Tea Time: 14:00 - 18:00  
Dinner: 18:00- (Bookings are required)

## JIRO KINJO EXHIBITION

(一生100年 - 金城次郎展) - Pottery (Okinawa)  
Until April 2 (Tue)

## WHITE GALLERY

25-7 Shimotatsuo-cho, Kagoshima city  
099-248-3904 / 11:00 ~ 18:00 / Closed Mondays  
Lunch: 11:30 - 14:00 / 1050 yen or 1260 yen  
Cafe: 11:00 ~ 18:00 Coffee 400 yen

## SHU KUROKI EXHIBITION - Touches

(Touches 黒木周 版画展) - Prints  
February 2 (Sat) ~ February 12 (Tue)

## KANG, SUNG HAE

"Tales of The Scarves" Exhibition + Fiber Small  
Goods Exhibition  
(Kang, Sung Hae スカーフの話展 + Fabist)  
February 14 (Thu) ~ March 3 (Sun)

## KIRISHIMA ART-NO MORI

6340-220 Koba, Yusui town, Aira county  
0995-74-5945 / 9:00 - 17:00 / Closed Mondays  
Entrance fee: Adults 300 yen

## MUSEUM COLLECTION EXHIBITION Part II

(コレクション展 Part II)  
December 18 (Tue) ~ February 17 (Sun)

## VISITOR CENTER

# Update



Update Newsletter is edited and issued by Visitor Center Update. We have a subscription service for the monthly Update Newsletter. If you would like to have it delivered, please send your name, address, and stamps (80yen per issue) as postage to the Kagoshima Internationalization Council (Visitor Center Update). We also offer information on sightseeing, transport service, accommodation and restaurants, all on the net. We'd like to hear from you. Mail us with your suggestions for future articles, and your comments about the content of Update. If you would like to write an article for Update, let us know.

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