

Update NEWSLETTER 7

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リニューアル第1号



Our web site "KAGOSHIMA Visitors' GUIDE"

英語情報誌「Update Newsletter」はより多くの国々や地域にお住まいの方々に幅広くご利用いただけるウェブサイトを中心とした情報発信に切り替わりました。それに伴い、当Update Newsletterは本号より季刊誌として生まれ変わります。内容も大きくリニューアルし、ウェブサイト(KAGOSHIMA Visitors' GUIDE)でご案内した内容や、その他鹿児島島の耳寄り情報をお届けいたします。ぜひ、ウェブサイトとともにご活用いただければ幸いです。

English free paper "Update Newsletter" have been replaced with our website "KAGOSHIMA Visitors' GUIDE".

Due to this change, "Update Newsletter" is renewed from this issue.

The contents are the information which we updated on our website and other information about Kagoshima!



Our Facebook Page "KIC-update"

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July

15 (Mon) Umi-no-hi

海の日

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六月灯 ～鹿児島特有の夏祭り～ ROKUGATSUDO ～Festival Peculiar to Kagoshima～



子どものころから親しんできた六月灯が、実は鹿児島（旧薩摩藩）だけで行われるお祭りだと知ったのは大人になってから。「六月灯」という言葉も全国共通語と思っていたので、辞書で見つからなくて驚きました!!

この時期になると鹿児島県内のいたる神社や寺院で六月灯が開催されます。鹿児島弁では「ログガドー」と言います。

じゃあ、なぜ鹿児島だけでこのようなお祭りが始まったのかを調べてみました。
島津19代藩主光久公が新昌院（現新照院町）の上山寺の観音堂を再建したおり、旧暦6月18日に沿道に灯籠を掲げ、道の明かりにしたそう。檀家もこれにならって灯籠を寄進したのが始まりといわれているそうです。
島津の殿様に倣って一般の人が始めた・・・鹿児島特有のお祭りなわけですね。

また、古来、「六月のオツメアゲ」といって、早馬神や鎮守様などにお燈明を上げ、牛馬の疫病祓いや田の病虫害駆除を祈る習わしがあったそう。こうした民間の行事が洗練されて六月灯の祭りになったのだらうという説もあるそうです。

この時期、県下の神社や寺院には氏子や子どもたちが和紙にさまざまな絵や文字を書いたものを張りつけた灯籠が奉納されます。六月灯の夜はこの灯籠の絵や文字をろうそくの淡い光が優しく映し出します。参道にずらりと並んだたくさんの灯籠を眺めるのも、六月灯の楽しみの一つです。

写真は県下最大級の六月灯が催される鹿児島市の照国神社。照国神社は島津家28代斉彬公を祀る神社です。

六月灯が開催される神社では、特設の舞台で子どもたちの歌やダンス、芸能などが奉納され、また、縁日が立ち並びます。各地域・集落に最も密着したお祭りで、地元の人や遠方から来た人など多くの人でにぎわいます。

I didn't know until I became an adult that *Rokugatsudo* (六月灯), the festival I've enjoyed since I was a child is actually held only in Kagoshima (former Satsuma Domain). I believed that the word "*Rokugatsudo*" was a standard Japanese, so I was very surprised to find out there is no such word in dictionaries!

In this season, *Rokugatsudo* is held at shrines all over Kagoshima. It is called "*Rogaddo*" in Kagoshima.

Why did such festivals start only in Kagoshima.

When *Mitsuhiisa Shimazu* (島津光久), the second lord of the Satsuma Domain reconstructed a *Kannon-do Hall* of a temple at *Shishoin*, he put many lanterns along the street to make the street light up, and patrons of the temple followed him and they offered lanterns to the temple. It is said that this is the start of the festival.

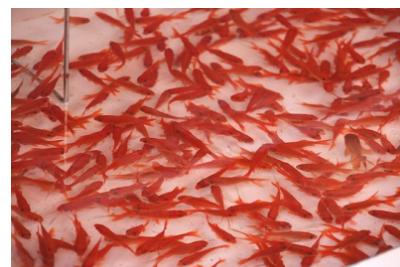
People started to hold *Rokugatsudo* following the example of the lord of Satsuma....that's why the festival is only in Kagoshima!

It is also said that since the long time ago, there was a custom offering lights to village shrine and the god of horses, and also to pray to drive plague off and prevent damage to crops in June. Some people say that this custom changed to the festival.

In this season, beautiful lanterns which patrons of shrines and children painted are dedicated. The pictures on lanterns are projected by the gentle lights of lanterns on the festival night. Looking at many lanterns lining up along the approach to the shrine is part of the attraction of *Rokugatsudo*.

The picture above is *Terukuni* shrine (照国神社) where one of the biggest *Rokugatsudo* is held. This shrine is dedicated to *Nariakira Shimazu* (島津斉彬), the 11th lord of Satsuma Domain.

At shrines where *Rokugatsudo* are held, childrens' song and dance, and performing arts are dedicated on specially arranged stages. Many stalls sell various things. *Rokugatsudo* is one of the most familiar events for each region of Kagoshima.



2013年六月灯開催日程 2013 Rokugatsudo Schedule

開催日時	開催場所	住所	電話	備考
7月1日(月)	八坂神社	鹿児島市清水町 祇園之洲	099-247-1464	18:00 雨天決行
7月2日(火)	船魂神社	鹿児島市 新屋敷町	099-226-7457	17:30 雨天決行
7月3日(水)	稲荷神社	鹿児島市稲荷町	099-248-4389	18:00 雨天決行
	稲荷神社	鹿児島市松原町 松原神社境内	松原神社 099-224-5631	
7月9日(火)	一ノ宮神社	鹿児島市 郡元2丁目	099-254-0092	18:00 雨天決行
	若宮神社	鹿児島市池之上町	099-248-2789	18:00 雨天決行
	伊佐智佐神社	鹿児島市和田町	099-269-5093	18:00 雨天決行
7月10日(水)	三船神社	鹿児島市吉野町		
7月11日(木)	塩竈神社	鹿児島市 谷山塩屋町	099-247-9518	18:00 雨天決行
7月11日(木) & 12日(金)	大国主神社	鹿児島市金生町		
7月13日(土)	柏原神社	鹿児島市 谷山中央2丁目	099-269-1225	18:00 雨天決行
7月14日(日)	塩竈神社	鹿児島市新屋敷町	099-227-1272	
7月15日(月) & 16日(火)	照国神社	鹿児島市照国町	099-222-1820	18:30 雨天決行
7月17日(水) & 18日(木)	南洲神社	鹿児島市上竜尾町	099-247-6076	18:00 雨天決行
7月18日(木)	鶴嶺神社	鹿児島市 吉野町磯	仙巖園営業企画 099-247-1551	18:00 小雨決行
	鹿児島神社	鹿児島市 草牟田2丁目	099-222-9380	
	神明神社	鹿児島市 宇宿3丁目	099-255-7710	18:00 雨天決行
7月19日(金)	建部神社	鹿児島市武2丁目	099-258-1466	18:00 雨天決行
7月22日(月)	日枝鴨池 山王神社	鹿児島市 鴨池1丁目	099-254-8853	16:00 雨天決行
	常盤日枝神社	鹿児島市常盤町	099-256-3738	18:00 雨天中止
	原良日枝神社	鹿児島市原良町	099-253-0180	
7月23日(火)	松原神社	鹿児島市松原町	099-224-5631	
7月24日(水) & 25日(木)	荒田八幡宮	鹿児島市 下荒田2丁目	099-252-6744	18:30 小雨決行
7月25日(木)	照国神社 三公銅像	鹿児島市照国町	照国神社 099-222-1820	
	烏帽子嶽神社	鹿児島市平川町		
	宮坂神社	鹿児島市喜入町	099-345-1157	19:00 雨天決行
	天之御中主神社 (妙見神社)	鹿児島市宇宿町	099-264-0011	18:00 雨天決行
7月28日(土)	伊邇色神社	鹿児島市 下伊敷2丁目	099-229-5715	18:00 雨天決行
7月30日(火)	月讀神社	鹿児島市 桜島横山町	099-293-2109	16:00 雨天決行
7月31日(水) & 8月1日(木)	縣護國神社	鹿児島市 草牟田2丁目	099-226-7030	18:00 雨天決行

*情報は予告なく変更される場合があります。

「いつか行きたい鹿児島」から、
「今すぐ行きたい鹿児島」へ
“Kagoshima, Where You Want to Go Sometime” Make
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インバウンド観光セミナーに参加しました。「インバウンド」、つまり「観光客誘致」の重要性と具体的方策についてのお話でした。

特に印象に残ったのは、「観光」とは[大きな産業]だということ。平成22年の観光名目の構成比はGDP（国内総生産）の5%。建設業（6%）に次ぐ金融・保険業（5%）と並ぶ数字。観光に力を入れれば、観光客の消費活動を通して、国や地域が経済的に潤い、雇用拡大にも結び付くすごい産業、といわげです。

しかも、特別なものに大金を投じなくても、現在あるものを工夫し、利用することで観光客の数を増やすことができます。柔軟な考えを取り入れ、いろいろな機関が手を取り合い、自分たちの利害だけでなく、鹿児島全体のことを考えた戦略の必要性を感じました。

外国人観光客の誘致には、外国人の視点からの改善やアクセスを含む街のデザイン等をぜひ取り入れてほしいものです。実際に、作家であり、日本各地で町屋再生事業、コンサルティング事業を手掛けるアレックス・カーのアイデアで成功した長崎県小値賀町の例もあります。

Wi-FiとATMのガラパゴス状態も早急に改善する必要性を感じます。無料Wi-Fiサービスの提供は、観光客のタイムリーな地域情報発信を可能にします。それによる地域の宣伝効果は計り知れません。現在はネットから情報を得る時代。しかも、口コミ効果は絶大です。フリーWi-Fiサービスから得られる経済効果を考えたら、必須サービスと言えます。

最後に、英語と日本語で鹿児島を世界にPRできる当サイト。発信者として身の引き締まる思いで拝聴しました。

I participated in an inbound seminar. It was about the importance of attracting tourists and the concrete measure.

The most impressive topic of the seminar was that “tourism” is a big “industry”. The component ratio of tourism in 2000 was 5% of GDP. It is the next big ratio of the construction industry (6%), and the same ratio as the finance and insurance industry (5%). It means that tourism is a big industry. Emphasizing tourism means the country and the area will profit, then employment will be promoted through consumption activity of tourists.

Moreover, there is no need to invest a lot of money into it, but, contrive to use what is there increases tourist numbers. I felt the need of strategy which adopting flexible ideas, and cooperating various organizations and thinking about not only their own interests, but the whole of Kagoshima.

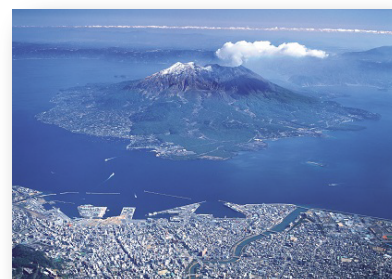
I think town design from the foreigners' view is necessary to attract foreign tourists. Actual, Ojika town in Nagasaki prefecture succeeded because they accepted the ideas of Alex Kerr, an author and a consultant.

Japan needs to improve the condition of isolated development Wi-Fi system and ATM system. Offering Wi-Fi service to the public including tourists makes tourists to transmit up to date information about the area, and the propaganda effect from them is immeasurable.

Nowadays, we get information through the internet, and the effect of word-of mouth is huge. When considering the economic effect by free Wi-Fi service, it is an essential service.

Kagoshima has many things for tourism, but these things are not utilized enough. Japan's tourism income from foreigners is only 6%, and Kagoshima's tourism income is 2.5%. Korea's tourism income from foreigners is 47%.

Kagoshima has a lot of possibilities, but not many people know what to do. It needs new vision and new system for making a new Kagoshima!



KANMURI-DAKE (冠嶽) ~A Place of The Legend of Jofuku~

I always wanted to go to *Kanmuri-dake* (冠嶽), because of the attractive sounding festival “*Jofuku Kakan-sai* (徐福花冠祭) and *Goma Kuyo* (護摩供養, fire rituals) which people hold there every year. In addition, I’ve seen exotic looking pictures of the place.

It’s about an hour and a half drive from Kagoshima city towards Satsuma-Sendai city. Go through Ichiki-kushikino city center on Route 3, and then turn right onto Prefectural Route 39, Kanmuri-dake Hanakawa Sabo Park (冠嶽花瀬砂防公園) will come into view on the left side of the valley.

We went to Kanmuri-dake Shrine (冠嶽神社) first. On the right side of the car park is the approach to the shrine. The contrast of the fresh green of trees, red leaves of maple trees and the red arched bridge made me feel enlivened.



Cross the arched bridge and walk under the torii gate, then the shrine is there! Near the Saisen-bako (賽銭箱, a box to collect offerings), there is an Onuta (大幣, a wooden wand used in Shinto rituals which is decorated with many zig-zagged paper streamers) and there is an explanation on a sign board about how to use the wand. It seems like Shrine visitors are allowed to do the Shinto purification. We tried it as well, and I felt like I received blessings....

If you walk to the right path from the approach to the shrine, you can see an interesting gate (pictured left). On the other side of the little path in the wood, there is a Chinese looking gate. The sign in front says “Plant Community of *Sennin Rock*”.

There is the legend of *Jofuku* (徐福), who was ordered by *Shi Huangdi*, the emperor of China more than 2200 years ago, to come here to search for the elixir of life. *Sennin Rock* is on the cliff at the back of the shrine, and it is said that a *sennin* (hermit) trained on the rock to become a wizard.

Many rare plants grow naturally there, and the plant community is a natural monument designated by Kagoshima prefecture.

There are legends of *Jofuku* all over Japan, but I, from Kagoshima, want to believe that Kagoshima is the real place of origin of the legend. And, I want to believe that he came here, where these rare plants grow, to search out the elixir of life!



There is an excellent Chinese garden which makes you forget you are in Japan on the other side of the gate. It is its own little world.

This is *Kangaku-en* (冠嶽園), a garden which is associated with *Jofuku*. It is not just a frothy tourist spot. It is well looked after and the arrangement of the buildings and the garden is fascinating. I forgot about my daily life here and felt like I was abroad.

The picture bottom right is “*Hiten-mon* (樞天門)” which means “the gate of Japanese nutmeg tree which almost can touch the sky”. There used to be a huge nutmeg tree right next to the gate, but it died several years ago. The tree trunk is shown at the entrance of the octagonal shaped building. Now, a new nutmeg tree is growing.



There is a statue of *Jofuku* in the garden. The statue is thinking about a far eastern place over the sea. *Jofuku* didn’t go back to China. Did he really come to Japan? When he left China, he took several thousand little children, grains, seeds, and many technical experts. Was his real aim the elixir of life? The legend of *Jofuku* is so mysterious.

If you visit, the place is beautiful in itself, but it’s even more interesting if you know a little about *Jofuku*.



Enjoy Driving around Nansatsu Area!

Speaking of sightseeing in the *Nansatsu* (南薩) area, you might think of *Ibusuki* or *Chiran*, but there are many other places to see. This time we'd like to introduce places that best represent *Nansatsu*. *Nansatsu* is very beautiful and full of nature. Enjoy your drive!

1. Tea fields in Ei (顚娃) town

Tea fields extend over the *Aoto* (青戸) area and *Orio* (折尾) area. These areas have gentle hills and good weather which is suitable for growing tea trees. The view of Green tea fields that look like drawn lines reaches off into the distance.

Minami-Kyushu city was born by incorporating the three towns of *Ei*, *Chiran* and *Kawanabe* in 2007. Both *Ei* town and *Chiran* town used to lead Japan in the production of green tea, and both towns are now in *Minami-Kyushu* city, so the city has the biggest production of green tea in Japan, now.



2. Yutori-kan (ゆとり館)

Drive through the green tea fields, and continue driving towards the sea, to the town center of *Ei*, and the *Yutori-kan* will come into view. *Yutori-kan* is a shop where you can get local products. You can taste green tea there, and it is really mild and tasty. This shop is also famous for a buffet lunch.

Buffet lunch at *Yutori-kan*
 Fee: Adults 900 yen
 School children 500 yen
 Infants (3 years old and above) 300 yen
 All you can eat for 1 hour
 (including soft drinks, coffee and tea)
 *The menu changes to an *izakaya*
 (Japanese style bar) menu from 17:00.



3. Kamafuta Shrine (竈蓋神社)

This shrine is famous as one of the places thought to be flowing with mystical energy in Japan. The shrine is located at a place that can be a bit difficult to find, but there are always visitors from various places all over Japan, so just keep looking and you'll get there.

This place has a great view, too. The shrine is built on a small headland pushing out over the sea, and the contrast of sea blue and sky blue, the green color of the bush behind the shrine and the red color of the shrine itself is beautiful! In addition, you can see *Kaimon-dake* (開聞岳) over the blue sea on the left side of the shrine!

People say that the actual place thought to be flowing with mystical energy is "*Kibo-no Misaki* (希望の岬)" behind the shrine over the bush, and the view of *Kaimon-dake* from there is also very beautiful!

"*Kamafuta*" means "a pot lid". It is said that if you balance a pot lid on your head and walk from the *torii* gate to the offertory chest, your wish will be granted, but it is quite difficult. The wooden pot lid is quite heavy and it isn't very stable on top of a round human head, so it tends to slip off. But, if you try hard, the shrine god might accept your wish. Trust yourself and try hard, you might succeed!

There are more things to enjoy at this shrine. There is a picture of a dragon on the ceiling. It is said that if you take a photo of the dragon, the ball in its hand looks sparkling in the picture. If you want to visit the shrine, make sure you take your camera.

And, on the left side of the shrine, little pot lid-shaped clay works are sold for 100 yen each. (Nobody is there. Put the fee into the slot near the clay works.) If you can throw the clay works into the pot at the bottom of the cliff on the right side of the shrine, your wish will be granted, too.

We will introduce more about Nansatsu such as another place where you can see *Kaimon-dake*, *Somen-nagashi* (fine white noodles served flowing in water) and *Kagoshima's southernmost station*: All in Part !!



二十四節気と雑節

24 Divisions of The Solar Year; 24 Terms Used to Denote The Changing of The Seasons
And Standard Days Signifying The Changing of The Seasons

二十四節気と雑節は日本人の文化に深く根ざし、季節の移ろいの目安となってきました。

そこで、Facebook上ではこれらを日本語と英語で紹介しています。

We have an information web site, "KAGOSHIMA Visitors' GUIDE" for visitors and residents in Kagoshima.

Also, we have a Facebook page and on which we write about events and cultural activities of Kagoshima and Japan.

24 terms used to denote the changing of the seasons and standard days signifying the changing of the seasons have been an integral part of people's lifestyle and even now Japanese people know the change of seasons through them.

We introduce the custom in English and Japanese on Facebook.

July

半夏生 (Hangesho)

7月2日 (火) / July 2nd (Tue)

雑節の一つ。

半夏(烏柄杓)という薬草が生えるころだから、この名がついたとも、また、ハンゲショウ(カタシログサ)という草の葉が名前の通り半分白くなって化粧しているようになるころだからとも言われています。

農家にとっては大事な節目の日で、この日までに農作業を終え、この日から5日間は休みとする地方もあるそうです。

また、この日は天から毒気が降ると言われ、井戸に蓋をして毒気を防いだり、この日に採った野菜は食べてはいけないとされたりしたとか。



烏柄杓 (Crowdipper)

上方ではこの日に蛸を、讃岐ではうどんを、福井県では大野市などで焼き鯖を食べる習慣があるそうです。

この頃に降る雨を「半夏雨」(はんげあめ)、あるいは、半夏水(はんげみず)といい、大雨になることが多いとか。

Hangesho (半夏生) is one of the standard days signifying the changing of the seasons.

It is the 11th day from the summer solstice.

It is at the end of the rainy season that very humid and medicinal herbs which are called "hange (半夏) or karasu-byakushi (烏柄杓), crowdipper in English" come out.

Farmers used to observe some customs: finish rice planting by this day, don't eat or seed wild plants such as bamboo and bracken, and put a lid on wells because they used to say that in this season the ground fills with poisonous air.

このほかにもFacebookページ「KIC-update (KIC-KAGOSHIMA Visitors' GUIDEに改名予定)」では、雑節や節句などを紹介しています。ぜひ、ご覧ください。
<https://www.facebook.com/kicupdate>

*上記の日付は毎年変わります。The dates above change every year.

小暑 (Shosho)

7月7日 (日) / July 7th (Sun)

小暑は、二十四節気の第11。

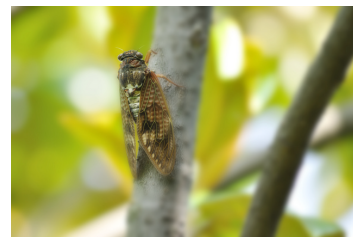
梅雨明けが近付き、暑さが本格的になるころで、蝉が鳴き始めるとされています。

小暑あるいは大暑から立秋までの間が暑中で、暑中見舞いはこの期間内に送ります。小暑の終わりごろに夏の土用に入るそうです。

Shosho (小暑) is the 11th of 24 solar terms in the traditional East Asian calendars.

The end of the rainy season is near, and it gets really hot around this time. Cicadas start to chirp.

From **Shoho (小暑, July 7th)** or **Taisho (大暑, July 23rd)** to around **Risshu (立秋, August 7th)** is **Shocyu (暑中, mid-summer on the calendar)** and it is the period people send **Shochu-mimai (暑中見舞い, post cards or letters offering best wishes for the hot season)** to their friends and relatives.



せみ (Cicada)

大暑 (Taisho)

7月23日 (火) / July 23rd (Tue)

大暑は、二十四節気の第12。

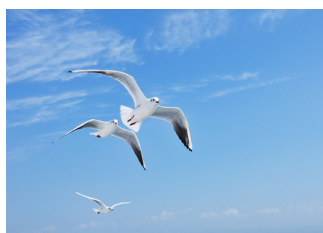
快晴が続く、気温が上がり続けるころ。

夏の土用が大暑の数日前から始まり、大暑の間じゅう続く。

Taisho (大暑) is the 12th of 24 solar terms in the traditional East Asian calendars.

Around this period, the weather is fine everyday and the temperature is shooting up everyday.

Doyo (土用 / the dog-days) starts a few days before **Taisho (大暑)** and it continues during the period (until the day before **Risshu / 立秋, first day of Autumn, April 7th**).

VISITOR CENTER **Update**

Update NewsletterはVisitor Center Updateにより編集、発行されています。

ウェブサイト「KAGOSHIMA Visitors' GUIDE」とFacebookページ「KIC-update」でも観光、交通、食、文化など鹿児島島の情報を発信しています。

これらの情報についてのご意見や投稿を募集しています。下記までご連絡ください。

Update Newsletter is edited and issued by Visitor Center Update.

We also offer information on sightseeing, transport service, accommodation and restaurants, all on our web site, "KAGOSHIMA Visitors' GUIDE" and on facebook "KIC-update".

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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