

Update NEWSLETTER 4

<http://kic-update.com/en/>

April 2012 No.259

Spring is in full bloom! Spring Festivals in Kagoshima!

Fukiage-hama Kaihin Koen “Haru Matsuri” (Fukiage-beach Seaside Park “Spring Festival”) (吹上海浜公園「春祭り」)

One of the biggest events at Fukiage-hama Kaihin Koen!
The row of cherry trees along the cycling path is beautiful!
You can enjoy all day with a flea market, live performances, pony riding experience and other things on the festival day.
There are sand sculpture classes, flower arrangement classes, and handcraft classes as well.

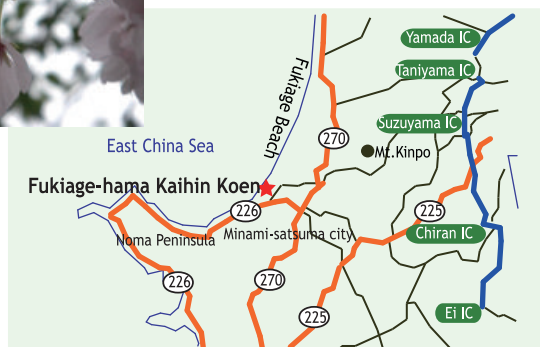
Date: April 8 (Sun)

Time: 10:00 ~ 16:00

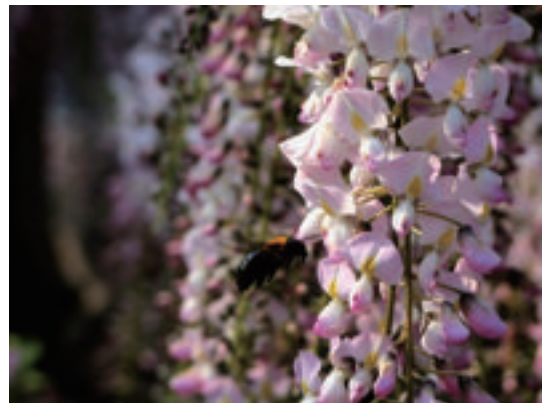
Place: Fukiage-hama Kaihin Koen

Kaseda-takahashi, Minami-satsuma city

Info: Fukiage-hama Kaihin Koen 0993-52-0910



Wake Koen “Fuji Matsuri” (Wake Park “Wisteria Festival”) (和気公園 藤まつり)



Around this time of the year, the wisteria will be in full bloom. Many people enjoy white and light purple flowers in the park. Some shops will sell special products, food and other things during the season. The opening ceremony is on Sat, 21st of April, and Kirishima Kumen Daiko (drum) performance, Midori Karashima live and other events will be held. Kirishima Kumen Daiko will be performed on the 22nd, 28th and 29th of April, too.

Date: from the middle of April to the start of May

Time: 8:30 ~ 19:00

(8:30 ~ 19:00 on the Saturdays, Sundays, the day before holidays and the holidays.)

Place: Wake Park, Makizono town, Kirishima city
(near Myoken Onsen)

Entrance fee:

J.H.S.Student and up 300 yen

Free pass 500 yen

Info: Executive (Wake Koen Fuji Matsuri Jikko linkai) 0995-54-6410



Events for This Month P2-P3

Spring is in full bloom!

Spring Festivals in Kagoshima P4 - P5

The Basic Philosophy of Satsuma P5

Uzuki Calendar P6

Fortune-telling P6

Movie Guide P7

Movies on TV P7

Music & Art P8

National Holiday

April 29 (Sun) Showa-no hi 昭和の日 The Showa Day

*April 30 (Mon) is the holiday in lieu of the public holiday.

See
page 4 for more
information about
Spring Festivals!

Events

SATSUMA-no HINA-MATSURI

(SATSUMA DOLL'S FESTIVAL)

(さつまの ひなまつり / 薩摩のひなまつり)  → A

An annual exhibition of dolls displayed on the Girl's Festival Day. When *Takehime*, the daughter of the 5th *Shogun*, *Tokugawa Tsunayoshi*, married Lord *Shimazu* of *Satsuma*, she brought about 550 dolls with her. Of these 550 dolls, there were 98 different kinds. *Iso* garden is full of flowers of Japanese apricot, Taiwan cherries, camellias, azaleas.
Date: February 4 (Sat) ~ April 26 (Thu)
Time: 8:30 - 17:30
Place: Sengan-en (Iso garden), Kagoshima city
* You need to pay an entrance fee.

Entrance fee:


Garden only: Adults 1000 yen /
Elementary & J.H.S.Students 500 yen

The garden and inside the castle tour:

Adults 1500 yen /
E. & J.H.S.Students 750 yen

Info: Sengan-en (Iso Garden) / 099-247-1551


HARU-no KI-ICHI (SPRING PLANT MARKET)

(はるのきいち / 春の木市)  → B

The annual event which is alive with lots of visitors, and stalls selling plants, seedlings, vegetables, pets and other things. Some events such as gardening classes on 20th (Tue) of March and 29th (Sun) of April, 10:30-12:00, a gardening course by Satomi Shiba on the 31st (Sat) of March, 11:00-12:00 and other events will be held.
Date: March 15 (Thu) ~ May 6 (Sun)
Place: Banks of Kotsuki river, Kagoshima city
(Near Takamibashi tram stop)
Info: Kagoshima city / 099-216-1340

KUSHIKINO HAMA KEIBA RACE

(KUSHIKINO BEACH HORSE RACE)

(くしきの はまけいば / 串木野浜競馬)  → C


This is a horse race which has a 50 year history, and it is the 55th Commemorative race. The race will be held on a 1.5km course at *Terushima* beach in *Fukiage* dunes, one of the three biggest dune systems in Japan. You can enjoy various races such as thoroughbreds, agricultural horses and pony races. Some stalls will sell food, drink and special products. Sightseeing flight with a boarding fee is also available.
There is a shuttle bus from Kushikino station to the main site (9:00 ~ 16:00).
Date: April 22 (Sun)
Time: 9:30 ~ 15:30
Place: Terushima beach, Ichiki-kushikino city
Info: Executive (Ichiki-kushikino city hall) / 0996-32-3111
<http://ichiki-kushikino.com/events/418.html>



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KAGOSHIMA HARU-MATUSRI DAI-HANYA

2012

(かごしま はるまつり だいはんや2012 / かごしま春祭大ハンヤ2012)  → B

Hanya-bushi is a Japanese traditional festival dance thought to have roots in the dance *Amami Roku-cho*. About 130 teams, 2,000 people from the *Kyushu* and *Chugoku* Region dance *Hanya-bushi*. Some events such as Southern Cross Live Performance, a raffle and other things will be held. A food court where you can taste The S-1 Gurume Grand Prix's popular shops food will be open, too.
Date & Time: April 20 (Fri) 18:00 ~ 21:00
21 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 19:00
22 (Sun) 9:00 ~ 19:00


Place: Tenmonkan park, Tenmonkan, East entrance square of Chuo Station, Dolphin Port and other places

Info: Executive (Kagoshima Harumatsuri Shinkokai Jimukyoku) / 099-225-9533

Sports

KYUSHU BEACH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE 2012


OPEN in OSAKI

(きゅうしゅう びーちばれー りーぐ 2012 かいまくせん in おおさき / 九州ビーチバレーリーグ2012開幕戦 in 大崎)  → D

Kyushu beach volleyball league opening will be held in *Osaki*! You need 2 men & 2 women (up to 6 people including substitutes) in a team (men and women, H.S.Student and up). Top 2 teams in the league will go into a tournament. If you win, you can get Kurobuta (Black Berkshire) pork).
Date: April 22 (Sun)
Time: Entry 8:00 ~
Place: Osaki-cho Beach Sports Senyo Kyogijo, Daimaru, Osaki town, So county
Participation fee: Adults 3,000 yen / person
Deadline: April 13 (Sat)
Info: Executive (Kyushu Beach Volley League Jimukyoku) / 092-741-6310

Coca-Cola CUP

3 on 3 KAGOSHIMA

(コカコーラCUP 3on3 かごしま たいかい / コカ・コーラCUP 3 on 3 鹿児島大会)  → B

This is a basketball match with three players in a team. It is categorized high school students and up, and junior high school students and below.
Date & Time: April 28 (Sat) 9:00 ~
Place: Kagoshima Arena, Nagayoshi-cho Kagoshima city
Participation Fee: 4,000 yen / team
Application Deadline: April 13 (Fri)
URL: <http://information.ktstv.net/e29363.html>
Info: KTS Kagoshima TV 099-285-8966


KIHOKU GREEN HIKING

(きほくぐりーん はいきんぐ / 輝北グリーンハイキング)  → E

It is an event in which you can walk at your own pace in the course prepared specially for it at *Kihoku Uwaba Plateau*.
Date: April 29 (Sun / national holiday)
Time: Opening ceremony 9:45 ~
Place: Kihoku Uwaba Plateau, Kihoku town, Kanoya city
Participation Fee: 300 yen
Info: Kihoku Uwaba Park / 099-485-1900

MINAMI-NIHON CROSS-COUNTRY RACE IN

KIHOKU

(みなみにほん くろすかんとりー たいかい IN きほく / 南日本クロスカントリー大会 IN きほく)  → E


Enjoy running on the hill where you can see *Sakurajima* and *Kinko bay*. There are 8km for adults, 5km for H.S.boys, 3km for adults, H.S.Students, J.H.boys, 2km for J.H.girls, group and family courses.
Date: May 12 (Sat)
Time: Entry 8:00 ~ 12:00
Place: Kihoku Uwaba Park, Kihoku town, Kanoya city
Registration Fee: Adults 2,000 yen
H.S.Students & J.H.S.Students 1,000 yen
Group & Family 200 yen / person

Deadline: April 13 (Fri)

Info: Executive (Minami-nihon Cross-country Taikai Jimukyoku) / 099-486-1196

HANAFUSA-KYO IKOI-no MORI JOGGING RACE


(HANAFUSA GORGE IKOI-no MORI JOGGING RACE)

(はなふさきょう いこいのもり じょぎんぐ たいかい / 花房峽憩いの森ジョギング大会)  → F

Hanafusa gorge is famous for a forest path. Anybody can participate in this event. You can choose the course (2km, 3km, 5km or 8km). There are many kinds of facilities in the park, so you can enjoy yourself all day!
Date & Time: May 13 (Sun) 8:30 ~
Place: Hanafusa-kyo Ikoi-no Mori, Minami-no-gou, Sueyoshi town, Soo city
Application Deadline: April 27 (Fri)
Info: So city hall / 0986-76-8808

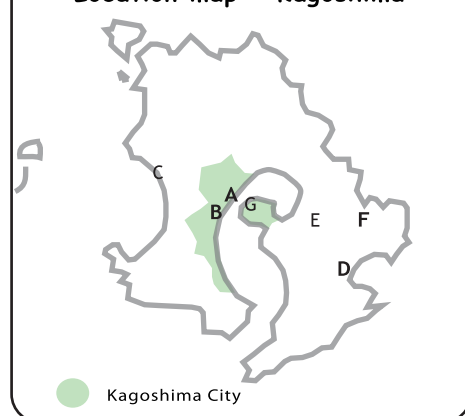
CROSS SAKURAJIMA KINKO BAY

LONG-DISTANCE SWIM RACE

(さくらじま・きんこうわん おうだん えんえい たいかい / 桜島・錦江湾横断遠泳大会)  → G

It is a long-distance swim race from *Koike* beach in *Sakurajima* to *Iso* beach which is 4.2km. 5 people in a team (1 manager and 4 swimmers). The 4 swimmers need to swim and reach the goal together. participants need to be high school students and above, they also need to prove they can swim 1,000 meters in 30 minutes, aiming to finish in 2 and half hours (max) for the race. A manager meeting will be held on the 14th of July, and must be attended.
Date July 15 (Sun)
Time: 9:00 ~ 14:00
Place: Start Koike beach, Sakurajima
Goal Iso beach, Kagoshima city
Deadline: April 20 (Fri)
*Apply through internet or by mail
(Mail has to reach the executive no later than April 20).
*In case of too many participants, determine by lot.
Info: Executive (SCC Jimukyoku) / 099-229-4222
URL: <http://www.10bai.com/enei/index.html>

Location map - Kagoshima



Antique & Flea Markets

KAGOSHIMA MAMMOTH FLEA MARKET 2012

(かごしま まんもす ふりま 2012 はる / かがしまマンモスフリマ2012春)

One of the biggest annual flea markets in Kyushu held by Minami-nihon Living. Clothes, shoes, books, dishes, sundry goods and other things will be sold. You might find your favorites!

It is also a good chance to clear your house up.

Date: April 28 (Sat) & 29 (Sun)

*In case of rain, it will be postponed until April 30 (Mon / national holiday).

Time: 9:00 - 16:00

Place: Water Front Park, Kagoshima city (the sea side of Dolphin Port)

*Application for booths has been closed.

Info: Minami-nihon Living 099-222-7290

Stage

Tetsuya Kumakawa K-ballet Company

Spring Tour 2012 "LE CORSAIRE"

(くまがわ てつや Kバレエ かんぱにー Spring Tour 2012 「かいぞく」 / 熊川哲也Kバレエカンパニー Spring Tour 2012 「海賊」)

The Ballet company of Japan's most famous ballet dancer, Tetsuya Kumakawa will perform "Le Corsaire".

Date: June 2 (Sat)

Time: 14:00

Place: Shimin Bunka Hall 1, Yojiro, Kagoshima city

Ticket: S seat 17,000 yen / A seat 14,000 yen
B seat 10,000 yen / C seat 8,000 yen

Info: Kagoshima Onkyo 099-226-3465

TAO 2012 HIMIKO

(TAO 2012 「HIMIKO~ようこそ、最先端の、二千年前へ。~」)

A Kyushu based taiko (drum) troop TAO, performing internationally comes to Kagoshima. Enjoy their powerful performance!

Date: June 15 (Fri)

Time: 19:00

Place: Shimin Bunka Hall 1, Yojiro, Kagoshima city

Ticket: S seat 7,000 yen / A seat 6,000 yen
A seat 5,000 yen

Info: TAO Entertainment / 092-721-2015

-KIEV CLASSICAL BALLET- TCHAIKOVSKY'S THREE BALLET HIGH-LIGHTS

(キエフ・クラシック・バレエ ~ チャイコフスキー3大バレエ・ハイライト)

Tchaikovsky's three ballets, "The Nutcracker", "Swan Lake" and "Sleeping Beauty" will be danced.

Date: July 31 (Tue)

Time: 18:30

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

Ticket: 5,500 yen
(Pair ticket 10,000 yen)

Info: RO DON Rust 099-223-8426



Kyushu Events

FUKUOKA

HAKATA DONTAKU (博多どんたく)

"Dontaku" is originally the Portuguese "zondag" which means "holiday". Many elaborate parades from Fukuoka city and all over Japan entertain you. A lot of events will be held on stages in the city.

Date: May 3 (Thu) ~ May 4 (Fri)

*Both of the days are national holidays.

Place: Fukuoka city

Info: Executive (Fukuoka Shimin-no Matsuri Shinko-kai) / 092-441-1170

Dontaku HP: <http://www.fukunet.or.jp/dontaku>
*Hakata Dontaku Parade Balcony Tickets are available.

Fee: 1,500 yen in advance
2,000 yen on the day

A ticket: May 3 13:00 ~ 15:50

B ticket: May 3 16:10 ~ 18:30

C ticket: May 4 15:00 ~ 19:30

Place: in Suijo Park, Meiji street, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka city

Info: The Fukuoka

Convention & Visitors Bureau

Tel 092-733-5050 Fax 092-733-5055

FLOWER PICNIC 2012

Umino-nakamichi Seaside Park is a huge leisure facility on the sand spit linking mainland Kyushu and Shikanoshima. There is an amusement park which is called "Wonder World" in the park.

Flower Picnic is held for 44 days, and you can enjoy daffodil-beds, tulip-beds, the cherry-tree-lined path, and many other flowers. A huge picture made with planted flowers on the ground will be exhibited and various events will be held during the period.

Date: March 24 (Sat) ~ May 6 (Sun)

Place: Umino-nakamichi Seaside Park,

(Umino-nakamichi Kaihin Koen)

Saitozaki, Higashi-ku, Fukuoka city

Admission fee: Adults 400 yen

E.S. & J.H.S. Students 80 yen

Info: Umino-nakamichi Seaside Park 092-603-1111

URL:

<http://www.uminaka.go.jp/FP2012/index.html#contentsH>

HAPPY SPRING PARTY in SPACE WORLD

Gundam World 2012 in Space World in which you can enjoy the world of "MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM" from March 1(Thu) to May 27 (Sun). Many other events will be held during the period.

JR Kyushu has a special ticket which is called "Space World Waribiki Kippu" which includes a shinkansen round-trip ticket from Kagoshima Chuo Station and a Space World Free Pass. It costs 22,600 yen (if you are a student it costs 21,800 yen, and 12,100 yen for a child), and you can use it for 5 days.

Date: March 1 (Tue) - June 26 (Wed)

Place: Space World, Yahata-higashiku,

Kita-kyushu city

Free pass: Adults 4,200 yen / Child 3,150 yen

4 yrs old and below 1,050 yen

Parent & kid (elementary school student only) 6,930 yen

Info: Space World / 093-672-3600

<http://www.spaceworld.co.jp>

*They have an English, Korean and Chinese page.

SAGA

ARITA TOUKI-ICHI

(ARITA CERAMIC BAZAAR) (有田陶器市)

It is a very popular event. During Golden Week, ceramic lovers from all over Japan come to Arita, a ceramics-making village in the mountains.

More than 600 shops line the 4-km-main street from JR Arita Station to Kami-arita Station. The whole area is busy with many customers until sunset everyday. Ceramic lovers enjoy finding nice ceramics and appreciating works of art by famous artists.

Date: April 29 (Sun) ~ May 5 (Sat)

Info: Arita Shoko Kaigisho / 095-542-4111

URL: <http://www.arita-toukiichi.or.jp/open.html>

OITA

TULIP FESTA 2012

(チューリップフェスタ2012)

Harajiri Waterfall is in the selection of Japan's one hundred famous waterfalls. This place becomes a flower field in spring. 530,000 tulips bloom here. During the period a lot of events will be held every Saturday and Sunday. You can see the tulip field from a helicopter from 10:00 to 15:00 on April 14 (Sat), 15 (Sun), 16 (Mon) and 17 (Tue). The fee is 4,000 yen and 3,000 yen for kindergarden aged children.

* There is a shuttle bus from Ogata Sogo Ground to the main site on Saturdays and Sundays.

Date: April 7 (Sat) ~ April 22 (Sun)

Place: Around Harajiri waterfall, Ogata town, Bungo-ono city

Info: Bungo-ono city Ogata branch / 0974-42-2111

KUMAMOTO

TSUETATE ONSEN KOINOBORI MATSURI

(TSUETATE SPA CARP STREAMERS FESTIVAL) (杖立温泉鯉のぼり祭り)

More than 3,500 carp shaped streamers swim in the sky of Tsuetate. During Golden Week various events will be held.

Date: April 1 (Sun) ~ May 6 (Sun)

Place: Tsuetate Onsen, Oguni town, Aso county

Info: Tsuetate Onsen Tourism Association / 0967-48-0206

USHIBUKA HAIYA MATSURI

(USHIBUKA HAIYA FESTIVAL)

(牛深ハイヤ祭り)

The whole city is filled with the festive atmosphere and the melody of Ushibuka Haiya during the period. The highlight of the festival is when approximately 6,000 residents who wear happi coats join in the Haiya Dancing. Many events will also be held.

Date & Time: April 20 (Fri) 18:30 ~ 21:30

21 (Sat) 8:30 ~ 20:30

22 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 15:30

Place: Central town of Ushibuka city and around the port

Info: Ushibuka branch of Amakusa city hall

0969-73-2111

URL: <http://www.ushibuka-cci.or.jp/>

MIYAZAKI

GURU-to AOSHIMA FLOWER FESTA

(ぐるっと青島フラワーフェスタ)

Enjoy Spring in Miyazaki!

This is the season in which all over Aoshima is full of beautiful flowers.

Miyazaki Anettai Shokubutsu-en

(Miyazaki Prefectural

Subtropical Plant

Garden), Michi-no Eki

Phoenix, Miyazaki-shi

Shizen Kyuyo-mura

Center, Miyazaki

Shirahama Auto Camp

Site, Nagisa-no

Koban, Kodomo-no

Kuni, Aoshima

Cinqmale and

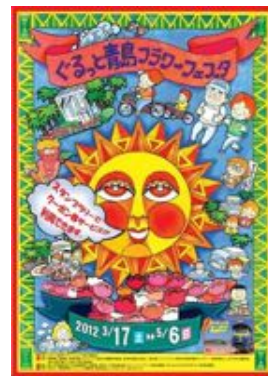
Aoshima fishing port are decorated with flowers.

Date: March 17 (Sat) ~ May 6 (Sun)

Place: All over Aoshima, Miyazaki city

Info: Miyazaki Convention and Visitors Bureau

0985-26-6100



HAYAUMA MATSURI

(HAYAUMA FESTIVAL) (早馬祭)

In the precinct, local arts such as jankan horse dance, stick dance, yakko dance and other things will be dedicated to the Gods. After the dedication people go to each area of the town and show their dance. Stage shows, Kendo, Judo, kyudo, outdoor tea ceremony and other things will also be held.

Date: April 29 (Sun) *National holiday

Place: Hayauma park, Mimata town,

Kita-morokata county

Info: Mimata town office / 0986-52-1111
0984-22-8684

Spring is in full bloom!

Spring Festivals in Kagoshima!

Kanoya Rose Garden “Kanoya Rose Festival 2012 Spring” (Kanoya Bara-en “Kanoya Bara-matsuri 2012 Haru” (かのやばら祭り2012春)

There are 50,000 rose trees in 80,000 square meters of park. Beautiful roses, cherry blossoms and poppies are planted, and the English Rose Garden has been renewed. The highlight of the festival is “Kanoya Rose Garden Fantasy Night” on the 26th and 27th of May, and you can enjoy roses with illumination, candles and a laser show! You can try Rose curry, rose soft ice cream and rose shochu at the restaurant in the garden.

Date: April 27 (Fri) ~ June 3 (Sun)

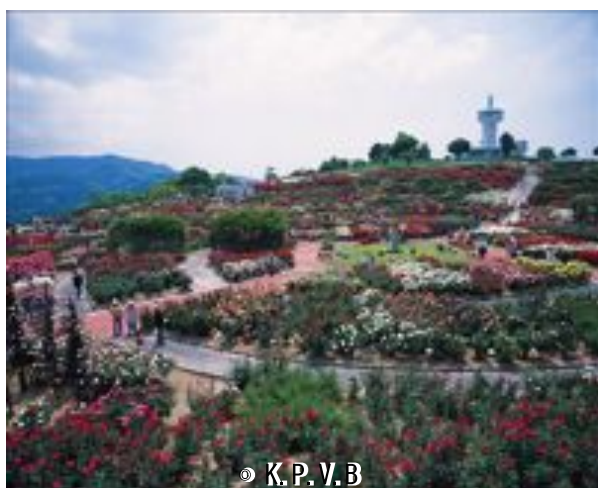
Time: 9:00 ~ 18:00

Place: Kanoya Rose Garden, Hamada town, Kanoya city

Entrance fee: Adults 600 yen

E.S., J.H.S. & H.S. Student 100 yen

Info: Kanoya Rose Garden 0994-40-2170



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Yumeoi Nagashima Hana Festa (夢追い長島花フェスタ)



Enjoy a wonderful view of “Flower Road Nagashima (Guru-tto 1shu Flower Road)”!

On Saturdays and Sundays during the period, you can try flower arrangement, pressing flowers, group planting and kokedama - “green moss balls”. Various events will also be held.

Date: March 31 (Sat) ~ May 6 (Sun)

Place: Main site Nagashima-cho Bunka Hall

Sub site Taiyo-no Sato

Others Kawatoko Fureai-no Sato, Akasaki-bashi Parking Park
Nagashima town, Izumi county

Info: Executive (Yumeoi Nagashima Hana Festa Jikko Iinkai)

0996-86-1111



Takatouge Spring azalea Festival (Takatouge Haru-no Tsutsuji-matsuri)

(高峠春のつつじ祭り)

The view from Takatouge is splendid and wild azaleas which cover the hill are so beautiful. Kirishima Kinko bay National Park was established in March, and Takatouge is in the park. Various events will be held during the period. Enjoy a great view and the bracing mountain air!

Date: April 28 (Sat) ~ April 30 (Mon)

*April 30 is a substitute holiday.

Place: Takatouge Tsutsuji-ga Oka Park,
Takatouge, Tarumizu city

Info: Tarumizu City Hall 0994-32-1111



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Kokubu Shiroyama Park Cherry Blossom Festival (Kokubu Shiroyama Koen Sakura Matsuri)

(国分城山公園桜まつり)



This park is located on a hill overlooking Kirishima city area. About 650 cherry trees are in full bloom and many people come to see and enjoy a spring day. You can try fishing for rainbow trout. Stage events will also be held. The cherry trees are lit up until the middle of April.

Date: April 7 (Sat) & 8 (Sun)

Time: 10:00 ~ 16:00

Place: Kokubu Shiroyama Park, Kokubu-kamikogawa, Kirishima city

Info: Kirishima Shoko Kaigisho 0995-45-0313

Special & Vintage Car Festa 2012

A world-famous vintage & classic car exhibition, the "Hani Collection" from collector, Syojiro Hani who was born in Kagoshima "will be held in Ibusuki.

About 30 cars including the actual Batmobile that was used in the first movie "Batman", a TOYOTA 2000GT, and the Delahaye135 which was presented to actress Rita Hayworth fby Indian Prince Aly Khan when they got engaged, will be exhibited.

Date: March 24 (Sat) ~ April 22 (Sun)

Time: Weekdays 9:00 ~ 19:00 Saturdays & Sundays 9:00 ~ 20:00

Place: Ibusuki Iwasaki Hotel, Juni-cho, Ibusuki city

Admission fee: Adults 1,500 yen

J.H.S. & H.S. Students 800 yen

E.S. Students Free

Info: Ibusuki Iwasaki Hotel 0993-22-21231



The basic philosophy of Satsuma

Jissinko Iroha-uta (日新公いろは歌) **vol.25**

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 twenty-fifth poem (starting with the letter "ゐ"): *ゐ*

亥にふして寅には起くとゆふ露の 身をいたづらにあらせじがため
(I-ni Fushite Tora-niwa Okuto lu Tsuyu-no
Mi-wo Itazura-ni Arasejiga Tame)

Scholars down the ages have studied hard by sleeping at ten (the hour of the mouse) and rising at four (the hour of the tiger).

Don't waste your fragile life on idle pastimes.



うづき
卯月 (Uzuki)

Japanese has a different name for each month. We call April, "Shigatsu" usually, but we also have another name "Uzuki". It means the season of deutzia (U-no-hana). Some people say it also means the season of planting.



U-no-hana

Uzuki Calendar

清明 (Seimei)

April 4 (Wed)

The 15th day from the Vernal Equinox Day. The word Seimei expresses the air of Spring which is clean and lively. It is a season where cherry blossoms are in full bloom and everything is bright and refreshed.

入学式 (Nyugaku-shiki)

The start of April - the middle of April
Entrance ceremony for schools. Here in Japan, usually the school year starts in April. You will see new students in new uniforms everywhere.

十三参り (Jyusan Mairi)

April 13 (Fri)

It is a custom maintained mainly in *Kansai*. In the old Japanese way of counting, 11-year-olds (who would have been counted as 13-year-olds) visit *Kokuzo bosatsu* (One of the Bodhisattva who has unlimited happiness, virtue and wisdom) and are endowed with happiness, virtue and wisdom.

穀雨 (Kokuu)

April 20 (Fri)

Kokuu (the crop rain) is named because spring rain moistens all the crops. The season of sowing comes to the moistened fields.



昭和の日 (Showa no Hi)

April 29 (Sun) *national holiday

It used to be "The Emperor's Birthday" in the *Showa* era. Now, it is the day to reflect on the *Showa* era of upheaval and recovery, and think of the future of the country".

花祭り (Hana-matsuri)
April 8 (Sun)

The day to celebrate Buddha's birth. Festivals called "Kanbutsu-e (灌仏会)", "Gotan-e (降誕会)", "Busshyo-e (仏生会)" (All three mean the celebration of Buddha's birth) or "Hana Matsuri (花祭り)" are held all over Japan. On this day, all temples hold *Kanbutsu-e* (灌仏会), *降誕会* (*Goutan-e*), *仏生会* (*Busshou-e*), *浴仏会* (*Yokubutsu-e*), *龍華会* (*Ryuge-e*), *花会式* (*Hana-eshiki*) or *花祭* (*Hana-matsuri*, meaning



'Flower Festival'). The first event was held at Asuka Temple in 606. Japanese people pour *ama-cha* (a beverage prepared from a variety of hydrangea) on small Buddha statues decorated with flowers, as if bathing a newborn baby.

Celebrations of Buddha's Birth
in KyushuSHIBUSHI OSHAKA MATSURI
(SHIBUSHI BUDDHA FESTIVAL)

(しぶし おしゃか まつり / 志布志お釈迦祭り)

It is a festival to celebrate Buddha's birth which is one of the biggest festivals in Kagoshima. A famous parade with brides in *kimono* riding horses decorated with bells, a brass band, dance troupes and others will parade from *Shibushi* station to *Houman* temple. People put hydrangea tea (*amacha*) on the Buddha statue, invoking good health.
Date: April 28 (Sat) ~ April 29 (Sun)

*April 28th is the eve of the festival.

Place: Houman Temple and Central town of Shibushi, Shibushi town, Shibushi city

Info: Executive (*Oshaka Matsuri Jikko linkai*) / 099-479-3232SHAKAIN HANA-MATSURI
(SHAKAIN FLOWER FESTIVAL)

(しゃかいん はなまつり / 釈迦院花祭り)

Shakain temple was founded in 799 on the top of Shakain-dake. This temple has the longest staircase in Japan which is 3,333 steps (from the Sisato-machi side). The impressive Shakain Hana-matsuri is conducted on the 8th of April every year.

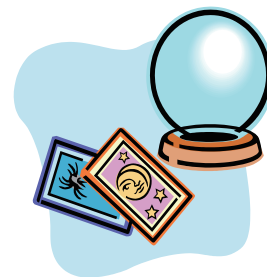
Date: April 8 (Sun)

Place: Shakain Temple, Kakizako, Izumi-machi, Yatsushiro city

Info: Yatsushiro city Izumi branch 0965-67-2111

Fortune-telling

April 1 ~ April 30



January Birthday:

Think again about what you really want to do or what you really like. Take your time and think over about yourself, then you'll find the right path.

February Birthday:

Laughter could be medicine. Smile at the mirror. If you are smiling all the time, trouble and worries will go away.

March Birthday:

Make a note of what you did things and what you felt or thought. Just a little note is OK. Through the note you'll realize some important things.

April Birthday:

Do you have busy days just being carried away by time? You need a playful mind sometimes. Enjoy a sport, a game or something through which you forget about daily life.

May Birthday:

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

June Birthday:

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

July Birthday:

Don't you get out of condition because you are too busy? You need to slow down and get back in good condition. Don't be too confident of your health.

August Birthday:

Remember that the answer is in your mind. When you can't find the answer, just roll a dice. It will tell you what to do.

September Birthday:

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

October Birthday:

Do things carefully and take your time. Your faithful work makes other people trust you.

November Birthday:

It could be a period in which you feel angry with many things, but be generous. If you show your generosity, it makes you lucky.

December Birthday:

It is the time to have a halt and go back to basics. Check your life style. Keep regular hours, sleep enough and do some exercise.

* Some of the dates above depend on the lunar calendar, so they change every year.

Movie Guide

★ Foreign movie ☆ Japanese movie

<div>TOHO Cinemas Yojiro</div> <div>東宝シネマズ与次郎</div> <div>Phone: 099-206-6544</div>	<div>★ HUGO (March 1 ~)</div> <div>WAR HORSE (March 2 ~)</div> <div>☆ LIAR GAME / ライアーゲーム 再生 (March 3 ~)</div> <div>☆ Okaeri Hayabusa / おかえり、はやぶさ (March 10 ~)</div> <div>★ THE IRON LADY (March 16 ~)</div> <div>SHERLOCK HOLMES : A GAME OF SHADOWS (March 10 ~)</div> <div>☆ Doraemon / 映画ドラえもん のび太と奇跡の島 アニマル アドベンチャー</div> <div>★ STAR WARS EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (March 16 ~)</div> <div>★ PUSS IN BOOTS (March 17 ~)</div> <div>☆ Bokura-ga Ita (the first part) / 僕等がいた 前篇 (March 17 ~)</div> <div>Ouran High School Host Club / 桜蘭高校ホスト部 (March 17 ~)</div> <div>Bokutachi Kyuko A-ressha-de Ikou / 僕達急行 A列車で行こう (March 24 ~)</div> <div>Ultraman Saga / ウルトラマンサーガ (March 24 ~)</div>	<div>★ THE HELP (Maruch 31 ~)</div> <div>Shiawase-no Pan / しあわせのパン (March 31 ~)</div> <div>★ TITANIC 3D (April 7 ~)</div> <div>☆ SPEC ~Ten / SPEC~天 (April 7 ~)</div> <div>★ THE ARTIST (April 7 ~)</div> <div>★ BATTLESHIP (April 13 ~)</div> <div>JOHN CARTER (April 13 ~)</div> <div>☆ Meitantei Conan 11ninme-no striker /</div> <div>名探偵コナン 11人目のストライカー (April 14 ~)</div> <div>☆ Crayon Shin-chan /</div> <div>クレヨンしんちゃん 嵐を呼ぶ！オラと宇宙のプリンセス 編 (April 14 ~)</div> <div>THIS MEANS WAR (April 20 ~)</div> <div>☆ Bokura-ga Ita (the second part) / 僕等がいた 後篇 (April 21 ~)</div>
<div>Mitte 10 ミッテ 10</div> <div>Phone: 099-812-6662</div> <div>(Amu Plaza 6F)</div>	<div>★ HUGO (March 1 ~)</div> <div>★ WAR HORSE (March 2 ~)</div> <div>☆ Doraemon / 映画ドラえもん のび太と奇跡の島 アニマル アドベンチャー</div> <div>☆ LIAR GAME / ライアーゲーム 再生 (March 3 ~)</div> <div>☆ Okaeri Hayabusa / おかえり、はやぶさ (March 10 ~)</div> <div>★ SHERLOCK HOLMES : A GAME OF SHADOWS (March 10 ~)</div> <div>★ STAR WARS EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE 3D (March 16 ~)</div> <div>★ THE IRON LADY (March 16 ~)</div> <div>PUSS IN BOOTS (Japanese) (March 17 ~)</div> <div>☆ Bokura-ga Ita (the first part) / 僕等がいた 前篇 (March 17 ~)</div> <div>Pre-cure All Stars /</div> <div>映画 プリキュアオールスターズ New Stage みらいのともだち (March 17 ~)</div> <div>Bokutachi Kyuko A-ressha-de Iko (僕達急行 -A列車で行こう) (March 24 ~)</div> <div>☆ Ultraman Saga / ウルトラマンサーガ (March 24 ~)</div> <div>★ My Week with Marilyn (March 24 ~)</div>	<div>☆ Asu-ni Kakeru Ai / 明日に架ける愛 (March 31 ~)</div> <div>☆ LIAR GAME / ライアーゲーム 再生 (March 3 ~)</div> <div>★ JOURNEY 2:THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (March 31 ~)</div> <div>☆ SPEC ~Ten / SPEC~天 (April 7 ~)</div> <div>☆ Salvage Mice / サルベージ・マイス (April 7 ~)</div> <div>BATTLESHIP (April 13 ~)</div> <div>JOHN CARTER (April 13 ~)</div> <div>☆ Meitantei Conan 11ninme-no striker /</div> <div>名探偵コナン 11人目のストライカー (April 14 ~)</div> <div>☆ Crayon Shin-chan /</div> <div>クレヨンしんちゃん 嵐を呼ぶ！オラと宇宙のプリンセス 編 (April 14 ~)</div> <div>☆ Bokura-ga Ita (the second part) / 僕等がいた 後篇 (April 21 ~)</div> <div>★ Wrath of the Titans (April 21 ~)</div> <div>Momo-eno Tegami / ももへの手紙 (April 21 ~)</div> <div>THERMAE ROMAE / テルマエ・ロマエ (April 28 ~)</div> <div>Waga Haha-no Ki / わが母の記 (April 28 ~)</div>
<div>Gardens Cinema</div> <div>ガーデンズ シネマ</div> <div>099-222-8746</div> <div>(Maruya Gardens 7F)</div>	<div>☆ Otsunami-no Ato-ni, Tsuchioto / 大津波のあとに、槌音 (April 7 ~ 13)</div> <div>★ London Boulevard (March 31 ~ April 13)</div> <div>★ Another Year (March 13 ~ April 20)</div> <div>The mill and the cross (April 14 ~ April 27)</div>	<div>★ ДЕВОЧКА ПО ИМЕНИ КАЛИНА (April 14 ~ April 27)</div> <div>★ Unter Kontrolle (April 14 ~ April 27)</div>
<div>Rena Theater Kanoya</div> <div>リナシアター</div> <div>Phone: 0994-35-1001</div> <div>(Rena city Kanoya 3F)</div>	<div>☆ Always 3chome-no Yuhi '64 / ALWAYS三丁目の夕日' 64 (March 24 ~ April 13)</div>	

Movies on TV

April

1	21:00	KKB	National Treasure	16	13:00	BS-P	Plein Soleil (Fench)
3	21:00	BS-J	Executive Decision		21:00	BS-J	The Lake House
7	00:00	BS-P	The Island	17	13:00	BS-P	Le Salaire de la peur (French)
	20:00	BS11	The Man Without a Face	18	13:00	BS-P	Le Rouge et le Noir Act I (French)
8	13:00	BS-F	Earth		22:00	BS-T	The Game of Their Lives
	21:00	KKB	National Treasure: Book of Secrets	19	13:00	BS-P	Le Rouge et le Noir Act 2 (French)
9	13:00	BS-P	How the West Was Won	20	13:00	BS-P	Ascenseur pour l'échafaud (French)
	21:00	BS-J	Rush hour	21	00:00	BS-P	The Brothers Grimm
10	13:00	BS-P	3:10 to Yuma		14:00	BS-N	Music of the Heart
	21:00	BS-J	Rush Hour 2		18:30	BS-T	Final Analysis
11	13:00	BS-P	The Left-Hundred Gun		20:00	BS11	The Final Countdown
	22:00	BS-T	The Deal		21:00	BS-A	Swordfish
12	13:00	BS-P	The Train Robbers	22	13:00	TwIV	My Blueberry Nights
13	13:00	BS-P	Wild Rovers		21:00	KKB	Clash of the Titans
14	00:00	BS-P	Firewall	23	21:00	BS-P	A Mighty Heart
	14:00	BS-N	Captain Corelli's Mandolin	25	22:00	BS-T	Todo Sobre Mi Madre(Spanish)
	20:00	BS11	Seconds to Spare	28	00:00	BS-P	Enter the Dragon / 龍争虎鬥
	21:00	BS-A	Tin Cup		14:00	BS-N	Doubt
					18:30	BS-T	Shanghai Noon
				30	13:00	BS-P	Patch Adams

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

BS-P= BS Premium
BS11 =BS 11
BS-A = BS Asahi
BS-J = BS Japan
BS-N = BS Nittele
BS-T = BS TBS
BS-F = BS Fuji
TwIV = TwellV

* Schedules are subject to change without notice.
** This information is as of February 29.

Music

Golden Bomber

(ゴールデンボンバー) - Rock
 Date: April 6 (Fri)
 Time: 18:30
 Place: Hozan Hall (Ken Bunka Center),
 Yamashita town, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 5,000 yen
 Info: BEA 092-712-4221

Akihito Okuda Piano Recital

(奥田暁仁 ピアノリサイタル) - Piano
 Date: April 8 (Sun)
 Time: 14:30
 Place: Kanon Hall (Aira-shi Bunka Kaikan),
 Kajiki town, Aira city
 Ticket: Adults 1,000 yen / Students 500 yen
 Info: Executive 090-7907-0587

Takahashi Tomoki Quartet Jazz Live

(高橋知己カルテットジャズライブ) - Jazz
 Date: April 12 (Thu)
 Time: 19:30
 Place: CAPARVO Hall, Tenmonkan,
 Kagoshima city
 Advance ticket: 4,000 yen
 (1 drink included)
 Info: Rhythm Heart 090-7440-5547

ET-KING

- J-POP
 Date: April 14 (Sat)
 Time: 18:00
 Place: Hozan Hall (Ken Bunka Center),
 Yamashita town, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 4,800 yen
 Info: K&M Corporation 099-223-7710

Sukima Switch (スキマスイッチ) - J-POP

Date: April 18 (Wed)
 Time: 19:00
 Place: Hozan Hall (Ken Bunka Center),
 Yamashita town, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 6,300 yen
 Info: Kyodo Nishi-nippon 092-714-0159

20th Anniversary μ FM Presents

Live Jam 2012 - Reggae, J-POP, R&B

Date: April 21 (Sat)
 Time: 18:00
 Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 1,
 Yojiro, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 5,800 yen
 Info: K&M Corporation 099-223-7710

Yasuhiro Suzuki Solo Live Tour 2012

(鈴木康博 ソロライブツアー2012
 ~『一歩』の二歩目~) - J-POP
 Date: April 22 (Sun)
 Time: 16:30
 Place: Live HEAVEN
 CAPARVO 3F, Tenmonkan,
 Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 4,500 yen (+ 1 Drink)
 Info: Jam Train 092-781-1011

Hiroyuki Ehara

- Baritone, Spiritual
 (江原啓之 スピリチュアル・タイム)
 Date: April 29 (Sun)
 Time: 16:00
 Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 1,
 Yojiro, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 8,000 yen
 Info: Kyodo Nishi-nippon / 092-714-0159

Hanako Oku

(奥華子コンサートツアー '12) - J-POP
 Date: May 4 (Fri) *National holiday
 Time: 17:00
 Place: Kenmin Hall,
 Kagoshima Kenmin Koryu Center,
 Yamashita town, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 4,000 yen
 Info: K&M Corporation 099-223-7710

Acid Black Cherry

- Rock
 Date: May 4 (Fri) *National holiday
 Time: 18:00
 Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 2,
 Yojiro, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 7,350 yen
 Info: Kyodo Nishi-nippon / 092-714-0159

Tokyo Ska Paradise Orchestra

(東京スカパライズオーケストラ) - Ska
 Date: May 6 (Sun)
 Time: 18:00
 Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 2,
 Yojiro, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 5,250 yen
 Info: Kyodo Nishi-nippon / 092-714-0159

Metis Live 2012

- J-POP, Reggae
 Date: May 6 (Sun)
 Time: 18:00
 Place: SR Hall, Tenmonkan,
 Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 4,000 yen (+ 1 Drink)
 Info: K&M Corporation 099-223-7710

Masayuki Suzuki

- R&B, J-Pop
 (鈴木雅之. Masayuki Suzuki taste of martini tour)
 Date: May 19 (Sat)
 Time: 18:00
 Place: Kagoshima Shimin Bunka Hall 1,
 Yojiro, Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 6,800 yen
 Info: K&M Corporation 099-223-7710

SCANDAL

- Garage rock, J-POP
 Date: May 19 (Sat)
 Time: 18:00
 Place: CAPARVO Hall, Tenmonkan,
 Kagoshima city
 Ticket: 4,300 yen (+ 1 Drink)
 *Tickets will be on sale from April 21 (Sat).
 Info: Kyodo Nishi-nippon 092-714-0159

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
JAKUCHU, RIMPA AND THE WORLD OF ELEGANCE
 (若冲・琳派と雅の世界) - Japanese Paintings
 Admission-fee Adults & University students 1,200 yen
 E.S, J.H.S & H.S students 700 yen
 March 28 (Wed) ~ May 6 (Sun)

STORE PRODUCT EXHIBITION OF SPRING

(春の所蔵品展) - Prints, Paintings
 Marino Marini Prints Special
 March 20 (Tue) ~ May 20 (Sun)

ARTISTS WHO PAINTED FOREIGN COUNTRIES

(異国を描いた画家たち展) - Paintings
 April 1 (Sun) ~ May 13 (Sun)

MIYAKE MUSEUM

1-4319-4 Taniyama-chuo, Kagoshima city
 099-266-0066 / 10:00 ~ 16:30 / Closed Wednesdays
 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)

ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT ARTISTS (DOKURITSU BIJUTSU KYOKAI) MEMBERS' EXHIBITION

(独立美術協会員の作品展) - Paintings
 January 5 (Thu) ~ March 27 (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 and cafe muu
SHU KUROKI EXHIBITION 2 (黒木周 版画展 2) - Prints
 March 31 (Sat) ~ April 12 (Thu)

MIZUHO OSHIRO GALLERY

6-51-25 Murasakibaru, Kagoshima city
 099-813-5460 / 11:00 ~ 21:00 / Closed Wednesdays
 Entrance fee: free
 Hanasakan cafe 11:00 ~ 21:00

- PRINTS GROUP SHOW -

Rieko Hidaka, Mio Kaneda, Kazuhito Sahara
 (- 版画グループ展 -
 日高理恵子 ・ 金田実生 ・ 佐原和人)
 February 5 (Sun) ~ April 8 (Sun)

SATSUMA EIKOKUKAN TEA WORLD

13746-4 Kori, Chiran town, Minami-kyushu city
 0993-83-3963 / 10:00 ~ 17:00 / Closed Tuesdays /
 Tea Room: 10:00 ~ 17:00

ENGLISH TEA TOWEL EXHIBITION

-Daily Use Arts -
 (英国のティータオル展 ~デイリーユースなアート作品~)
 March 10 (Sat) ~ April 15 (Sun)

YAMAKATAYA BUNKA HALL

2gokan 6F Yamakataya, 3-1 Kinsei-cho, Kagoshima city
 099-227-6111 / 10:00 ~ 19:00
SHOKO KANAZAWA EXHIBITION - Calligraphy
 (~心を奏でる筆~金澤翔子 展)
 April 20 (Fri) ~ April 26 (Thu)

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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