# Time Out •



## Yumoto Onsen Shrine Festival

During the Golden Week period from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of May, there were many omikoshi or portable shrine festivals around Iwaki, including festivals in Yotsukura, Onahama and Yumoto.

One of those omikoshi festivals was held in Yumoto on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May as part of the annual Yumoto Onsen Festival. There were three omikoshi at this festival: an omikoshi carried by the men, a smaller one carried by the women and a large one which was carried around on a truck. Starting at Onsen Shrine, the portable shrines were carried along the main streets of Yumoto towards the station, stopping by several local Ryokan (Traditional Japanese Inn) along the way. People would often line the street, throwing coins wrapped in tissue into the shrine.

This was the first time I carried an omikoshi and so my arms were quite worn out at the end of the festival. But it was worth the effort in order to experience this type of Japanese festival and for the free trip to the local hot springs afterwards.





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さんを歓迎します。お気軽にお立ち寄り下さい。お電話、 e-mail をお待ちしています。



## Festivals & Events

Your guide to what's happening around Iwaki City and beyond this month

## lwaki

**4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> June: Katsuo Festival** @ Iwaki La La Mew. From 9am. Over three days, there will be special bargain sales of in-season katsuo (bonito) on top of special raffles, taste testing and other events. On the second day, free katsuo (bonito) soup will be given out from 11am at the west side plaza for the first 500 arrivals. For inquiries, please visit the event page on Iwaki La La Mew's website: <u>http://www.lalamew.jp/index.php?module=View&action=EventMore&EID=650</u>.

**5<sup>th</sup> June: Kugatachi Shinji** @ Kotohira Shrine, Yumoto. Water will be boiled in a large cauldron at this Shinto ritual. The priest stirs the water with bamboo grass and splashes it on the surrounding area. It is believed that if you are splashed with the water you will be protected from misfortune. For inquiries, please contact Kotohira Shrine: TEL 0246-43-1001.

**5<sup>th</sup> June: Iwaki Rugby Festival** @ Iwaki Green Field, Joban. From 1-5pm. Watch Chuo University take on Ryutsu Keizai University as part of the Group A division in the Japan East Universities Rugby Union Spring Tournament. There will also be a Prefectural High School Rugby match held earlier in the day at the same venue. Entry is free for both matches. For inquiries, please contact the Japan East Rugby Football Union: TEL 090-2368-5113.

**12<sup>th</sup> June: Alios Park Festival** @ Taira Central Park (in front of Alios). From 11am-4pm. The festival is held on the second Sunday on every month from April to November. There will be stalls selling food and drinks, works of art and handicrafts. There is a live stage with various performances by local DJs and dance groups. For inquiries, please email <u>parkfesinfo@gmail.com</u>. Website: <u>http://ameblo.jp/parkfes-iwaki/</u>.

**15<sup>th</sup> June: Lecture on Japanese and Egyptian Festivals** @ Second floor of Building no. 1, Higashi Nippon International University. From 6:30-8pm (venue opens at 6pm). Did Japanese festivals originate from Egypt? Find out at this free lecture by Chancellor Sakuji Yoshimura. Please apply by 13<sup>th</sup> June. For inquiries, please contact Iwaki Sunshine Expo: TEL 0246-44-6545.

**19<sup>th</sup> June: Iwaki Big Band Jazz Festival** @ Industry Innovation Centre, 6<sup>th</sup> floor of LATOV. From 1-5:30pm (venue opens at 12:30pm). Four major bands that are active in Iwaki gather for this annual event. Entry is free. For inquiries, please contact Panafic Life Sato: TEL 0246-25-4660.

**26<sup>th</sup> June: Straw Vase Making** @ Tono Auto Camping Grounds. From 9:30am-12pm. Enjoy a day out in the mountains, experiencing handicrafts, food culture and the outdoors. Participation fee is ¥1200. Limited to 10 participants. Please apply by 19<sup>th</sup> June. For inquiries, please contact Tono Auto Camping Grounds: TEL 0246-74-1031.

\*The following event information may be subject to cancellations or changes. Before attending any events please confirm with the event sponsors in advance.

### From the Editor

June is usually known in Japan as the time of the rainy season, or *Tsuyu*. Fortunately Iwaki has a relatively pleasant climate compared to other parts of Japan, with more sunshine and less rain - so you should be able to leave your umbrella at home soon enough.

Meanwhile, I hope everyone also made the most of their late-April to early-May Golden Week. Some lucky people may have been able to get the whole 10 day period off while others just had the three days off in May. For my Golden Week, I travelled through northern Tohoku, stopping in Morioka, Akita and Yamagata along the way. The main highlights of my trip included trying Morioka's Jajamen noodles and Wanko Soba as well as seeing the Japan Sea for the first time in Akita Prefecture. And since most people tend to travel along the Golden Route between Tokyo and Kyoto during this time of year, the places I visited weren't overcrowded - making it an even more relaxing holiday.

For those who relaxed at home or visited other parts of Japan during Golden Week, I recommend taking some time to explore more of Tohoku and Fukushima prefecture over next year's holiday period.

Ben 牟

# wakinfo<sup>Stay up to date</sup>

## 1000km Relay to Tokyo now open

From Aomori to Tokyo, this relay for cyclists and runners travels through areas that were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. The following information details the Iwaki leg of the relay.

#### **Application Details**

#### General-participation runners

3 August (Wed): Kaiseizan Athletics Track Field to Aguamarine Park (Onahama Port); 30 participants.

4 August (Thu): Aquamarine Park to Oarai Town Office; 40 participants.

- Participants run in groups of several people over 1-10km legs before handing over the sash to the next leg of runners.
- The desirable running distances are approximately 1km for primary school students, 3km for junior high school students and 5km for high school students and older.

Fureai runners (open for anyone including small children, families etc.)

4 August (Thu): Aquamarine Park (approximately 1.8km); 50 runners.

Fureai runners will run or travel by wheelchair alongside guest runners.

#### How to Apply

#### **Online Application**

#### Go to the official website

(http://www.1000km.jp/top\_en/index.html) and click on the Go To Application link on the bottom of the Application Guidelines page where you will be able to submit an email application form (info@1000km.jp).

you Note that cannot both enter as а general-participation runner and a cyclist on the same day of the event.

Application Period: 10am on 11 May (Wed) until 11:59pm on 12 June (Thu).

For more information about the selection process and other details visit: http://www.1000km.jp/top\_en/index.html.

#### Inquiries

21 Umemoto Taira Iwaki City Fukushima Prefecture 970-8686 Sports Promotion Division, Culture and Sports Office, Iwaki City Hall

#### TEL: 0246-22-7607

FAX: 0246-22-1285

tokyoolympic-paralympic@city.iwaki.fukushima.jp Email: info@1000km.jp (Official website email)

#### Applications for runners in the The 2016 WBSC U-15 Baseball World Cup is coming to lwaki

Iwaki City will host The 3rd WBSC U-15 Baseball World Cup, which is an under-15 global baseball tournament, from Friday, the 29<sup>th</sup> of July to the 7<sup>th</sup> of August. The tournament is organised by the World Softball Baseball Confederation (WBSC) and will be Iwaki's first time hosting an international sporting event.

The 12 national teams, including the 11 nations and territories that advanced through their respective continental qualifiers in addition to the host nation Japan, will compete in exciting matches as they vie for the title of world champion.

Date: 29 July (Fri) to 7 August (Sun)

Venue: Iwaki Green Stadium, Taira Baseball Stadium, Nambu Stadium

Iwaki City will support the event and reveal to the rest of the nation and world a revitalised city. And by creating an opportunity for the children to be exposed to sport, Iwaki City also aims to improve its competitive ability and increase the number of its professional athletes.

#### "One School: One Country" intercultural understanding program

To coincide with the tournament, 12 local junior high schools are conducting a "One School: One Country" program. Each school decides on the country or territory that they will support and learns about the local culture and language of that team. The program aims to further intercultural understanding and help develop a global outlook among the students.

The students will also get to meet with the children of the participating nations and show them their hospitality and support for the game – creating an exciting atmosphere for the tournament.

#### **Mascot and Bus Wrapping**

To further promote the tournament, Iwaki has unveiled a bus with the baseball tournament logo wrapped around it as well as the U-15 WBSC Baseball World Cup Iwaki Mascot "Hula Tamami". Keep your eyes peeled for the bus and Hula Tamami around Iwaki over the next few months!

#### **Competing Nations and Territories**

Americas: America, Cuba, Colombia, Panama, Venezuala and Mexico Asia: South Korea, Chinese Taipei (Taiwan) and Japan Europe: Czech Repulic Oceania: Australia and New Zealand

#### **Inauiries:**

Sports Exchange Section, Sports Promotion Division, Iwaki City Hall TEL: 22-7607

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The following is a guide to hospitals open on Sundays and public holidays in Iwaki City during June and

early July

#### June Guide

Sunday 5 Jun	9		
	Yamauchi Clinic Izumi Orthopaedic Clinic	9-5 9-5	25-8181 56-3533
Nakoso Area Joban Area Onahama Area	Kureha General Hospital Tokiwakai Joban Hospital Konnai Kodomo Clinic (paediatrics)	9-5 9-5 9-12	63-2181 43-4175 73-8815
Sunday 12 Ju	ne		
Taira Area Onahama Area Nakoso Area Joban Area Taira Area	Takahashi Clinic Nakamura Hospital Kushida Hospital Iwaki Yumoto Hospital Fukuda Shonika Iin (paediatrics)	9-5 9-5 9-5 9-5 9-12	46-1231 53-3141 63-3202 42-3188 22-4272
Sunday 19 Ju	ne		
Nakoso Area Joban Area	Yamaguchi lin Onahama Seikyo Hospital Kojima Jiai Hospital Oriuchi Iin Shiga Kodomo Clinic (paediatrics)	9-5 9-5 9-5 9-5 9-12	24-1811 53-4374 63-5141 44-1133 58-5505
Sunday 26 Ju	ne		
Uchigo Area Taira Area Onahama Area Nakoso Area Joban Area Taira Area	Suda lin Sakamoto Seikeigeka lin (orthopaedic surgery) Iwaki Central Hospital Fuzoku Shinryojo Nakoso Hospital Seki Seikei Geka Clinic (surgery) Yamagiwa Kodomo Clinic (paediatrics)	8:30-12 9-5 9-5 9-5 9-5 9-12	27-6060 38-2830 53-3511 65-7755 84-9905 28-8686

#### **Counselling Service for Foreigners**

**Yorisoi Hotline (Helpline for Foreigners):** Consultation service available in Japanese, English, Korean, Tagalog, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese and Thai. Available languages vary depending on time. Are you having a problem with your visa, nationality, family, work, everyday living, discrimination, domestic violence, confinement or human trafficking? Please call us about any problem you may have. Your privacy will be protected.

Free. TEL: 0120-279-226. Mon-Fri, 10am-10pm.

**TELL Lifeline:** TELL is a professional non-profit organisation that provides counselling to English-speaking foreigners all over Japan. The lifeline is staffed by highly trained volunteer phone counsellors and provides free, non-judgemental and confidential phone counselling and information 365 days a year from 9am - 11pm.

TEL: 03-5774-0992. For more information, check out their website at http://www.telljp.com or e-mail them at admin@telljp.com.

Safety and Consultation Centre for Women (Police Box in front of Iwaki Station): For consultations related to women's safety. Free. Can only speak Japanese. 10am-6pm daily. TEL: 0246-25-9344.

#### July Guide

#### Sunday 3 July

Nakoso Area	Aratame Hospital	10-4	28-1222
	Yamaguchi lin	9-5	24-1811
	a Nishiyama Jibiinkoka lin (ear, nose & throat)	9-5	56-8733
	Yabuki Hospital	9-5	63-1818
Joban Area Sunday 10 Ju	Tokiwakai Joban Hospital Iy	9-5	43-4175
Taira Area	Chuodai Tanaka Ganka (opthamology)	9-2	29-1722
Taira Area	Hirakubo Naika Clinic (internal)	9-5	23-7788
Onahama Area	a Nakamura Hospital	9-5	53-3141
Nakoso Area	Kushida Hospital	9-5	63-3202
Joban Area	Iwaki Yumoto Hospital	9-5	42-3188

\*Information regarding paediatricians open on Sundays and public holidays during July will be posted on Iwaki City's website later this month.

#### Legal Consultations:

lwaki City Hall provides free general legal consultations. Scheduled days are as listed on the calendar; however these are subject to change. Please contact City Hall (Hometown Revitalisation Division TEL 0246-22-7438) and confirm the date, time and place. Reservations are required for consultations.

For Iwaki City Council of Social Welfare consultations (held at the Social Welfare Centre), please contact 0246-23-3320.

## **Emergencies**

#### **Emergency Dental Care**

All emergency dental care will be provided at the **General Health and Welfare Centre** (*Sogo Hoken Fukushi Senta*) in Uchigo.

This centre is open on Sundays and all national holidays from 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm. The reception closes at 3:30pm.

For more information please contact the centre on 27-8620.

#### After Hours and Holiday Emergency Treatment <u>Centre</u>

(Located in Iwaki Kyoritsu Hospital)

If you need to see a doctor urgently in the evening or on a weekend or public holiday, the **After Hours and Holiday Emergency Treatment Centre** is open at the following times:

Weekdays: 8pm - 12am Saturdays: 8pm - 7am (next day) Sundays: 1pm - 12am. Public Holidays: 9am - 12am. Please make sure whenever possible to bring a Japanesespeaker with you when visiting the hospital in Iwaki.

#### **Emergency Contact Numbers**

Police: 110 Fire & Ambulance: 119

#### <u>Children Emergency, First-Aid Telephone</u> <u>Consultations</u>

The Fukushima Prefecture Children Emergency, First-Aid Telephone Consultation Centre *(Fukushima- ken Kodomo Kyukyu Denwa Sodan)* is a free telephone service that provides professional advice when your child has become sick during the night. This telephone service is available in Japanese only.

TEL: 024-521-3790 or #8000

From 7pm to 8am.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	IIA Custom-made Plans
	periody							UTrès bien – Inquiries to Yamazaki-san
	May 29	May 30	May 31	1 IIA Japanese Speaking Class 3	2 IIA Japanese Reading Class 3	3	4	090-1934-0506 Yu no Hanakai – Inquiries to Ohba-san 0246-42-2135
				IIA Japanese Communication Class 3	IIA Japanese Writing Class 3			Nihongo no Kai – Inquiries to Suzuki-san 0246-62-3218
					IIA Spanish Classes 2			Lac låm Thai - Inquiries to Nakano-san 090-2881-4433
	5	6	7	8 IIA Japanese Speaking Class 4	9 IIA Japanese Reading Class 4	10	11	Please confirm the event date with the relevant representative if you're participating for the first time
				IIA Japanese Communication Class 4	IIA Japanese Writing Class 4			
				Free Legal Consultations (City Hall)	SSS Yu no Hanakai			
	12 IIA Yoga Cafe	13	14	15 IIA Japanese Speaking Class 5	16 IIA Japanese Reading Class 5	17	18	
				IIA Japanese Communication Class 5	IIA Japanese Writing Class 5			
0				Free Legal Consultations (City Hall)	Yu no Hanakai			
	19	20	21	22 IIA Japanese Speaking Class 6	23 IIA Japanese Reading Class 6	24	25	
				IIA Japanese Communication Class 6 Free Legal	IIA Japanese Writing Class 6			
5				Consultations (City Hall)	Yu no Hanakai			
	26	27	28	29 IIA Japanese	30 IIA Japanese	Jul 1	Jul 2	
UNC	Ecc låm Thai			Speaking Class 7 IIA Japanese Communication	Reading Class 7 IIA Japanese Writing Class 7			
				Class 7	Yu no Hanakai			