

Iwaki City Monthly Event & Information Guide

Sagicho Fire festival on Obama Beach

During the Obon period on 16th August, a Sagicho or fire festival was held on the coast of Obama in Nakoso. This event was revived and held for the first time in 32 years.

The festival included a typical Obon festival event where locals danced around the Yagura tower on the beach. However the main highlight of this festival was none other than the Sagicho or bamboo lighting ceremony. 15 giant tortoise-shell bamboo trees with straw wrapped around them were lit up at nightfall, creating a wall of flames along the tiny beach. The ceremony serves as a repose for the souls of the deceased.



The incoming Typhoon No.7 threatened to spoil the festivities, but thanks to the organisers holding the event early the bamboo was able to be lit up just before the rain arrived.

It was great to see a small-scale event like this be revived so many years later. And watching giant towers of fire on the beach at night is truly an amazing sight that I recommend you try to see for yourself next year.



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**Time Out is produced by the
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e-mail us anytime. Website:

<http://www.iaa-fukushima.or.jp>;
<http://www.city.iwaki.lg.jp/www/index.html>

いわき市役所 観光交流課

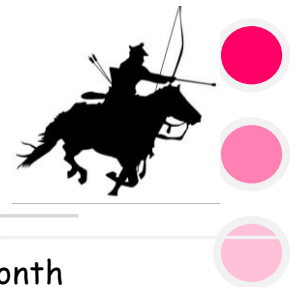
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観光交流課及び公益財団法人いわき市国際交流協会は皆
さんを歓迎します。お気軽にお立ち寄り下さい。お電話、
e-mail をお待ちしております。

Festivals & Events



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

Iwaki

2nd-4th September: Beer Expo '16 Iwaki @ Iwaki Taira Castle Ruins. From 3:30-9pm on the 2nd and from 11am-8pm on the 3rd and 4th August. Taste from a range of 30 different craft beers from 12 different brewers across Japan in what is Iwaki's first ever craft beer festival. A ¥1000 ticket covers one drink and one food item on the day. For inquiries, please contact the Iwaki Beer Expo Executive Committee: TEL 0246-24-8622.

3rd-4th September: Marlin Gourmet Summit @ Aquamarine Park. From 10am-4pm on the 3rd and from 10am-3pm on the 4th August. There will marlin hot pot for ¥200 for the first 500 customers on the first day. The second day will include a marlin cutlet eating competition and a variety of other hands-on events. For inquiries, please contact the Marlin Gourmet Executive Committee: TEL 0246-29-5161.

3rd September: Screening of *Samurai Hustle* and *Jangara* @ Iwaki Taira Castle Ruins. *Jangara* from 6pm. Movie from 7-9pm. To celebrate the upcoming release of the Samurai-themed Edo-period comedy *Samurai Hustle Returns*, which was filmed in Iwaki and featured local residents as extras, there will be a special outdoor screening of the original *Samurai Hustle* film. Alongside the screening, there will also be a *Jangara* performance and talk-show by the film's main actor: Kuranosuke Sasaki. Entry is free. The sequel film *Samurai Hustle Returns* will begin screening in Pole Pole and other cinemas on the following Saturday (10th September). For inquiries, please contact the Tourism Projects Division: TEL 0246-22-7477.

10th-11th September: Yabusame (Mounted Archery) @ Iino Hachimangu Shrine, Taira. From 2pm. A traditional event involving mounted archers galloping down the street and firing at targets. Other events are included during the Yabusame as well as during the shrine's annual festival on 15th September. For inquiries, please email hatiman@noteplan.net.

11th September: 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 parkfesinfo@gmail.com. Website: <http://ameblo.jp/parkfes-iwaki/>.

11th September: Saury Festival @ west side plaza of Iwaki La La Mew. From 11am. Experience grilling your own saury for free. Purchase any item at La La Mew and present it so you can receive a free whole saury (one for each person) and enjoy cooking and eating it. For inquiries, please visit the event page on Iwaki La La Mew's website: <http://www.lalamew.jp/index.php?module=View&action=EventMore&EID=666>.

11th September: Sunrise Big Band (SBB) 8th Year Anniversary Concert @ ferry terminal area of Iwaki La La Mew. From 1-2pm. Sunrise Big Band is an amateur band that performs mainly jazz as well as Latin, folk and pop music. Celebrate the 8th anniversary since their formation at this free concert. For inquiries, please visit the event page on Iwaki La La Mew's website: <http://www.lalamew.jp/index.php?module=View&action=EventMore&EID=667>.

17th-18th September: Cycling Festival @ 21st Century Forest Park, Joban. From 10am-5pm (approximately). Enjoy a day of cycling events with all types of bicycles, from racing bikes to gearless city bicycles. There are food and drink stalls, footbath and cycling-related events for both participants and spectators. Participation fee for the general category race is ¥3000. The fee for the city bicycle race is ¥5000 (must be in teams of 3-5 people). Entries close on 4th September. To apply and for more details, please visit <https://www.sportsentry.ne.jp/event/t/66836>. For inquiries, please contact the Cycling Festival 2016 in Iwaki Office: TEL 0246-22-7553.

25th September: La La Mew Yosakoi Dance Festival @ south side and west side plazas of Iwaki La La Mew. From 10:30am-4:30pm. Dozens of dance teams from inside and outside Fukushima Prefecture will perform various Yosakoi dances, including a combined dance with over 300 performers and giant flag waving performances. For inquiries, please visit the event page on Iwaki La La Mew's website: <http://www.lalamew.jp/index.php?module=View&action=EventMore&EID=668>.

1st-2nd October: Machinaka Concert in Taira @ Iwaki Station and surrounding areas in Taira. Numerous local bands and dancers will perform on several stages around Taira over two days. Visit the website and click 会場案内 to view a map of all stage locations. For inquiries please contact the Iwaki Machinaka Concert Executive Committee: TEL 0246-47-0130. Website: <http://www.iwaki-machicon.com/>.

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

Applications now open for the 8th Iwaki Sunshine Marathon

Application method for participants (excerpt taken from official website)



Although it's only September, perhaps now is the time to start training for the eighth annual Iwaki Sunshine Marathon which will be held on the 12th February 2017. There are a range of events including a full marathon, 10km, 5km, 2km runs and 2km parent-child pair running events. If you wish to join in the event, please don't forget to apply soon.

Entry Fees: Full marathon: 7500 yen; 10km run: 1500-3500 yen; 5km run: 1000-3500 yen; 2km run: 1000 yen (primary school 3rd to 6th grade only); 2km parent-child pair run: 3000 yen (children of 1st or 2nd grade primary school age and their parents only). Categories and fees for the 10km and 5km runs differ according to various age groups.

Please check the website for details: <http://www.iwaki-marathon.jp>. An English version of the Sunshine Marathon website is also being launched on 1st September.

Application forms can be obtained online via the Iwaki Sunshine Marathon website or from Iwaki City Hall, Iwaki City Branch Offices and the Citizen Service Centre. Money transfer forms can be submitted over the counter at your local post office.

Application period: 1st September (Thu) to 14th October (Fri). However, applications via money transfer close on 2nd October (Sun).

Application method for volunteers (excerpt from website)

If you wish to volunteer in organising the course (making space for pedestrians, guiding traffic etc.), working at the water stations, handing out participation/completion awards etc. you must be at least 15 years or older and be free to attend the information session for volunteers scheduled to be held in December this year. Only the first 2000 applicants will be accepted so please apply as soon as possible.

Volunteer application period: 1st August (Mon) to 31st October (Mon).

For details and further inquiries, please contact the Iwaki Sunshine Marathon Executive Committee.

Iwaki Sunshine Marathon Executive Committee Office
TEL: 0246-22-7607 FAX: 0246-22-1285 Email: info@iwaki-marathon.jp

Suar Agung

Alios has invited Suar Agung, a percussion ensemble group from Bali, Indonesia, to perform *jegog*: essentially a "Bamboo Orchestra" of up to 20 members who perform using bamboo percussion and keyboard instruments of varying sizes.

This event is a chance to get a full taste of Balinese performing arts, with traditional Balinese dance and *kecack* (male chorus group) performances also joining the stage. The concert day will also feature Balinese dance workshops conducted by the performance members, a photo exhibition of Bali and other related events. Don't miss out on this special Alios event!

Time & Date: 22nd September (Thu) from 5pm (doors open at 4:30pm)
Venue: Main Theatre, Iwaki Performing Arts Centre Alios
Performers: Suar Agung (*jegog* group from Indonesia)
Ticket prices: 3500 yen for reserved seating now on sale (1500 yen for students and wheelchair seating)
*Infants 2 years-old and younger may sit on a parent's lap for free (admission fee required for infants 3 years and older)
Contact: Alios Ticket Centre 0246-22-5800 (10am-8pm, closed Tuesdays)



HAMLET (IWAKI-TOWNSVILLE SISTER CITIES 25TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECT)



This Autumn, Shakespeare's best-known tragedy, *Hamlet*, will be performed at Alios by THEATREINQ, an Australian theatre company from Townsville, Queensland. Please come and enjoy THEATREINQ's *Hamlet*.

Time & Date: 9th October (Sun) from 2pm (doors open at 1:30pm)
Venue: Main Theatre, Iwaki Performing Arts Centre Alios
Cast: THEATREINQ (from Townsville, Queensland, Australia)
Ticket prices: 2000 yen, free for those aged high school age and younger (seat booking required)
*Reserved seating only
*No admittance to pre-school children
Contact: Alios Ticket Centre 0246-22-5800 (10am-8pm, closed Tuesdays)

Iwaki International Association Events

For applications and more information on IIA events, please contact the IIA.
TEL: 0246-22-7409 FAX: 0246-22-7581 Email: info@iia-fukushima.or.jp Website: www.iia-fukushima.or.jp/

Japanese Cultural Understanding Class

Foreign residents of Iwaki are encouraged to take part in the IIA's Japanese Cultural Understanding Class, where participants can deepen their knowledge of Japanese culture by wearing an authentic Japanese kimono and experiencing a Japanese class on etiquette. There will also be a barbecue-themed IIA Member's Party for foreign residents of Iwaki and Japanese IIA members to interact with each other. We look forward to seeing a huge turnout.

Date: Sunday 30th October
Time: 9:30am-12:00pm
(includes kimono-wearing and etiquette class)
*to be held rain or shine
*barbeque from 1:00-4:00pm
Venue: Iwaki Taira Castle Ruins (Kyujoseki, Taira)
Participants: Foreign residents living in Iwaki
Capacity: 10 people for the kimono-wearing, 20 people for the etiquette class
*draw will be used if there are many applicants
Fee: 2000 yen for the kimono-wearing (cleaning fee), free for the etiquette class, 500 yen for the barbeque afterwards
Instructor: Michiko Takaba and other instructors
Applications: Please apply by Friday 14th October. Apply via fax or email by filling the requirements in the chosen form.



IIA Member's Party

This event aims to promote exchange between Japanese IIA members and foreign residents of Iwaki. It is a great chance to meet heaps of people, including old friends and new faces in the community. We encourage all members, both Japanese and foreign residents, to join in the fun together!

For foreign resident members, don't miss the chance to also deepen your understanding of Japanese Culture during the Japanese Cultural Understanding Class which is to be held earlier in the morning of the party day.

Date: Sunday 30th October
Time: 1:00-4:00pm; preparations from 12:00-1:00pm; cleaning up from 4:00-4:45pm (scheduled)
*to be held rain or shine
Venue: Iwaki Taira Castle Ruins (Kyujoseki, Taira)
Capacity: 70 people
Fee: 500 yen for individual, foreign resident and group members (up to 3 people per group), free for registered family members
Applications: Please apply by Friday 14th October. Apply via fax or email by filling the requirements in the chosen form.

*Please feel free to bring your own homemade cuisine.

*Please also include in the form whether or not you can help with the preparations and/or cleanup and also if you can provide a performance for the event.



Volunteers Required! Intercultural Understanding Lessons



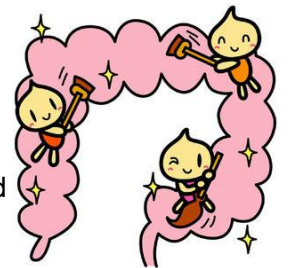
Are you interested in teaching to children regarding your country, culture and language? Please contact the IIA if you can help!

Date: 4th November (Fri)
Time: During the morning
Venue: Takasaka Primary School (Uchigo)
Volunteers wanted: Foreign residents to give intercultural understanding workshops for 1-2 classes
Contact: Iwaki International Association (IIA)
TEL: 0246-22-7409 Fax: 0246-22-7581
E-mail: info@iia-fukushima.or.jp

Gourmet Café

Do you pay attention to what you're eating everyday? Would you like to learn from a nutrition instructor how to make a well-balanced diet by considering healthy food choices? Join in the IIA's Gourmet Café so you can feel beautiful and healthy inside.

Date: 14th October (Fri)
Time: 10am-1pm
Venue: Cooking Room, Iwaki City Cultural Centre
Participants: Anyone is free to participate
Capacity: 30 people (draw will be used if there are many applicants)
Fee: 1000 yen for food expenses
Menu: Roll-grilled saury, roasted vegetables with soy sauce koji, salt koji marinated vegetables, black bean millet rice, detox soup, fruit marinated sweet koji
Applications: Please apply by 30th September via phone, fax or e-mail



Counselling Service for Foreigners

Yoriso 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.

From the Editor

We've reached the end of a summer full of huge events, including of course Iwaki's annual Iwaki Odori and Fireworks Festival – the latter of which had a record 20,000 fireworks to coincide with Iwaki's 50th anniversary.

I imagine most people had a chance to see either the Odori or Fireworks – or perhaps went to see a local festival or event this summer. Although I was looking forward to those events, I was unable to attend this year as I went to Townsville, Iwaki's Sister City in Australia, to accompany two of Iwaki's runners for a marathon down there. The marathon was held on the 7th August and, despite being mid-winter in Australia, was quite a warm day – about the equivalent to late-May/early-June weather in Iwaki.

Whilst I couldn't enjoy this year's big summer events in Iwaki, I had just as good a time returning home to Australia for a brief period of time. There are also still plenty of events to enjoy as we approach autumn so make sure to check a few out!



Iwaki Hospital Guide



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

September Guide

Sunday 4 September

Taira Area	Shimada Ganka lin	9-12	22-1677
Taira Area	Yamaguchi lin	9-5	24-1811
Onahama Area	Ishii Noshinkei Geka Ganka Hospital (neurosurgery and ophthalmology)	9-5	58-3121
Nakoso Area	Yabuki Hospital	9-5	63-1818
Joban Area	Yoshinari Naika (internal)	9-5	42-2220
Onahama Area	Kodomo Clinic Suzuki (paediatrics)	9-12	56-6336

Sunday 11 September

Taira Area	Takahashi Clinic	9-5	46-1231
Onahama Area	Izumi Central Clinic	9-5	56-6677
Nakoso Area	Kureha General Hospital	9-5	63-2181
Joban Area	Iwaki Yumoto Hospital	9-5	42-3188
Taira Area	Wakamatsu lin (paediatrics)	9-12	22-3838

Sunday 18 September

Taira Area	Aita Seikeigeka (orthopaedic surgery)	9-12	35-0808
Taira Area	Yamaguchi lin	9-5	24-1811
Onahama Area	Nakamura Hospital	9-5	53-3141
Nakoso Area	Kojima Jiai Hospital	9-5	63-5141
Joban Area	Kamome Clinic	9-5	28-1010
Taira Area	Fukuda Shonika lin (paediatrics)	9-12	22-4272

Monday 19 September

Uchigo Area	Suda lin	8:30-12	27-6060
Onahama Area	Onahama Seikyo Hospital	9-5	53-4374
Nakoso Area	Midorikawa Naika Clinic (internal)	9-5	68-6415
Joban Area	Tokiwakai Joban Hospital	9-5	43-4175

Thursday 22 September

Taira Area	New Town Jin-Naika Clinic (internal & nephrology)	9-12	46-0606
Onahama Area	Kashima Hospital	9-5	58-8010
Nakoso Area	Yu Clinic	9-5	63-1611
Joban Area	Iwaki Kusakidai General Clinic	9-5	28-1145

Sunday 25 September

Taira Area	Shirai Geka Ichoka lin (surgery & gastroenterology)	8:30-12	25-3788
Taira Area	Sakamoto Seikeigeka lin (orthopaedic surgery)	9-5	38-2830
Onahama Area	Kashima Ladies Clinic	9-5	58-8577
Nakoso Area	Nakoso Hospital	9-5	65-7755
Joban Area	Kazawa Icho Seikeigeka (gastroenterology and orthopaedics)	9-5	42-2198
Taira Area	Yamagiwa Kodomo Clinic (paediatrics)	9-12	28-8686

October Guide

Sunday 2 October

Taira Area	Yamaguchi lin	9-5	24-1811
Nakoso Area	Kureha General Hospital	9-5	63-2181
Joban Area	Tokiwakai Joban Hospital	9-5	43-4175
Taira Area	Nagai Shonika (paediatrics)	9-12	28-2535

Sunday 9 October

Uchigo Area	Suda lin	8:30-12	27-6060
Nakoso Area	Kushida Hospital	9-5	63-3202
Joban Area	Iwaki Yumoto Hospital	9-5	42-3188
Joban Area	Iwaki Kusakidai General Clinic (paediatrics)	9-12	28-1145

Monday 10 October

Taira Area	Takahashi Clinic	9-5	46-1231
Nakoso Area	Saito Naika Clinic (internal)	9-5	77-1001
Joban Area	Iwaki Kusakidai General Clinic	9-5	28-1145



Legal Consultations:

Iwaki 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 Centre

(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.

TEL: 27-1208

Please make sure whenever possible to bring a Japanese-speaker with you when visiting the hospital in Iwaki.

Emergency Contact Numbers

Police: 110

Fire & Ambulance: 119

Children Emergency, First-Aid Telephone Consultations

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.

SEPTEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 28	Aug 29	Aug 30	Aug 31	1 JPLT Applications Open  Yu no Hanakai	2	3
4	5	6	7 IIA Japanese Course Placement Test	8 Yu no Hanakai	9	10 Yabusame (Mounted Archery) Premiere screening of <i>Samurai Hustle Returns</i> movie
11 Yabusame (Mounted Archery)	12	13	14  Free Legal Consultations (City Hall)	15  Yu no Hanakai	16	17 Iwaki Battery Valley Festival 2016 in Iwaki Cycling Festival 2016 in Iwaki
18 Cycling Festival 2016 in Iwaki	19 Respect for the Aged Day 	20	21  Free Legal Consultations (City Hall)	22 Autumnal Equinox Day  Suar Agung Alios Performance	23	24 Make Your Own Udon Noodles: Tono Autocamp Event
25 Iwaki Kite Flying Competition (Yotsukura foreshore) Tuna Festival (Seiko-kan)	26	27	28 IIA Japanese Speaking Class 1 IIA Japanese Communication Class 1  Free Legal Consultations (City Hall)	29 IIA Japanese Reading Class 1 IIA Japanese Writing Class 1 Yu no Hanakai	30 JPLT Applications Close	Oct 1

Test Date: 4th December 2016 (Sun)
Test Fee: 5,500 yen (consumption tax included)
 The test room opens from 12:00pm and the test starts at 12:30pm.
Inquiries: JLPT Application Centre:
 TEL 03-6686-2974.
 Website: <http://www.jlpt.jp/e/index.cgi>

IIA Custom-made Plans

 Très bien – Inquiries to Yamazaki-san 090-1934-0506
 Yu no Hanakai – Inquiries to Ohba-san 0246-42-2135
 Nihongo no Kai – Inquiries to Suzuki-san 0246-62-3218
 Lac lâm Thai - Inquiries to Nakano-san 090-2881-4433
 Please confirm the event date with the relevant representative if you're participating for the first time

