



Iwa-Key

Volume 34
August 2020

Iwaki City Monthly Event & Information Guide

Iwa-Key



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Cancellation of Annual Summer Festivals and Events

The year 2020 has seen many events cancelled or delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Although the situation has greatly improved in Japan and life is slowly returning to a "new normal", there are still concerns about the risk of a second wave of infections if people stop taking precautions against the virus. That is why major summer festival events have been cancelled in Iwaki this year.

Although these events will unfortunately not take place this year, the details of each event are included so you can decide what festivals you would like to attend for next year.

#Although the dates listed are for last year, these festivals tend to fall on the day of the week that is close to the dates listed (event dates written in **bold** are always held on those dates regardless of the day of week). Please inquire with the event organisers for further details.

Event	When and Where	Details	Inquiries
Beach Opening Ceremonies	Ceremony on Sat 13 Jul (Beaches open mid-July until mid-August); Several beaches in Iwaki City	This ceremony marks the official opening of the beach season in Iwaki.	Tourism Projects Division of Iwaki City Hall TEL: 0246-22-7480
Nakoso Festival	Sat 27 th Jul; Ueda Patio Street, Nakoso for Samba and Odori; Samegawa River Bank, Nakoso for Fireworks	This festival begins with a Samba Parade followed by the Nakoso leg of the Iwaki Odori and concludes with fireworks by the Samegawa River.	Nakoso Summer Festival Executive Committee TEL: 0246-63-6521
Yotsukura Nebuta and Iwaki Odori	Sat 27 th Jul; Area between Yotsukura Port and Yotsukura Station	Up to a thousand dancers will parade alongside several Nebuta floats.	Yotsukura Summer Festival Executive Committee TEL: 0246-32-2900
Onahama Marine Festival	Sat 27 th - Sun 28 th Jul; Aquamarine Park, Onahama	You can ride water sleds, jet skis and other types of boats. There will also be a jet ski acrobatic show, stage performances and other attractions both in the water and onshore.	Iwaki Fireworks Festival Executive Committee TEL: 0246-53-5677
Shitoki Dam Festival	Sun 28 th Jul; Shitoki Dam, Kawabe, Nakoso	In addition to regular festivities, you can also go on a boat ride around the dam.	Shitoki Dam Festival Executive Committee TEL: 0246-64-7645
Goldfish Hand Catching Contest	Thu 1 st Aug; Area around Yumoto Station, Joban	Children up to primary school age can try catching goldfish with their hands in a giant pool set up in front of the station for free. Children can keep any goldfish that they catch.	Iwaki Yumoto Hot Springs Tourism Association TEL: 0246-42-4322
Onahama Iwaki Odori	Fri 2 nd Aug; Kashima Highway (section between the Onahama Branch Office of Iwaki City Hall and AEON Mall Iwaki-Onahama)	Before the actual Iwaki Odori, there are several performances including cheerleading, janagara and a taiko drum performance.	Iwaki Fireworks Festival Executive Committee TEL: 0246-53-5677
Yappe Odori	Fri 2 nd Aug; Area around Yumoto Station, Joban	"Yappe" means "Let's do it" in Iwaki dialect. Feel free to enjoy this dance along the streets of Yumoto.	Yumoto Hot Springs Tourism Association TEL: 0246-42-4322
Iwaki Fireworks Festival	Sat 3 rd Aug; Aquamarine Park, Onahama	This is one of the largest fireworks festivals in the Tohoku Region, with over 10,000 individual fireworks arranged alongside music.	Iwaki Fireworks Festival Executive Committee TEL: 0246-53-5677
Iwaki Tanabata Festival	Tue 6th - Thu 8th Aug ; Area around Iwaki Station, Taira	The main shopping streets of Taira will be decorated with Tanabata decorations. Stalls offering food and selling festival goods will also line the streets. The Iwaki Odori is held on the last day of the festival.	Iwaki Tanabata Festival Executive Committee TEL: 0246-25-9151
Iwaki Odori	Thu 8th Aug ; Main Street in front of Iwaki Station, Taira	The main leg of the Iwaki Odori attracts thousands of dancers and spectators, with people dancing along the main street in various groups.	Iwaki Odori Executive Committee TEL: 0246-44-6545
Iwaki Rotating Tower Bon Odori Festival	Tue 13th - Thu 15th Aug ; Area around Uchigo Station	Held every year during the Obon period in Uchigo, this festival features a large rotating tower known as Kaitei Yagura that resembles Shiramizu Amida Temple. Anyone is free to dance around the tower.	Iwaki Rotating Tower Bon Odori Executive Committee TEL: 0246-26-1256
Yotsukura Repose of Souls and Revival Fireworks	Fri 16th Aug ; Yotsukura Beach	Held both in order to pay tribute to the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and pray for the revitalisation of Yotsukura. Around 300 bamboo lanterns will light up the promenade whilst 3000 fireworks will light up the night sky.	Yotsukura Repose of Souls and Revival Fireworks Executive Committee TEL: 090-8254-5291
Yumoto Hot Springs Great Costume Bon Odori and Fireworks	Sat 17 th Aug; Sahoko Hot Springs, Yumoto, Joban	Dress up in costume and join in this unique bon odori dance in front of the Sahoko Hot Springs, before enjoying a fireworks show.	Iwaki Yumoto Hot Springs Tourism Association TEL: 0246-42-4322
Hula Girls "Koshien" Contest	Sun 18 th Aug; Main Theatre inside Alios and Taira Central Park (in front of Alios)	High Schools from all across Japan will compete in this annual hula dance competition. You can watch hula dancing for free in the main theatre or at the park outside, where there will also be food stalls.	Hula Girls "Koshien" Contest Office TEL: 0246-68-8282
Natsui River Lantern Floating Festival	Tue 20th Aug ; Heijin Bridge (Natsui River Bank), Taira	Lanterns are sent floating down the river as a tribute to the spirits of one's ancestors before concluding with fireworks.	Natsui River Lantern Floating Festival Executive Committee TEL: 090-4554-6123

Iwa-Key is produced by the Tourism Exchange Division of Iwaki City Hall

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The Tourism Exchange Division and the IIA are open to the public. Please feel free to drop by, call, or e-mail us anytime.