

Let's Go to the Beach



Let's talk about summertime in Oita. Let's talk about ice cream and shaved ice. Let's talk about fireworks and Tanabata festivals. And, most importantly, let's talk about the heat. Was there any sweat on your brow when you headed into work this morning? Have you spent an inordinate amount of time in one room of your house—just because it has air conditioning? Are you already counting down the days until fall begins? But before we get to fall, we get to Umi no Hi, or Marine Day, on July 17th. It's time to appreciate Oita's waters—which means it's time to beat the heat at the beach.*

*Disclaimer: There is still heat at the beach.



I grew up in a landlocked area, so it's no wonder that my new favorite spot in Oita is an island. Himeshima may take some effort to get to (especially for those relying on public transportation), but the destination is worth the hassle. Once you're there, it's easy to explore all 17 km of the island on a rented bicycle, enjoy the tiger shrimp and seafood Himeshima is famous for, catch a glimpse of the chestnut tiger butterfly in

Himeshima Beach

Higashi Kunisaki District Himeshima-mura

姫島海水浴場

東国東郡姫島村

May or October, and soak up every inch of the Himeshima Blue Line. The Himeshima Blue Line is a road that stretches along Himeshima's beautiful coast and features Himeshima Beach as one of its attractions. Rent a bike from one of the souvenir shops along the main street and head down to check it out.

Features & Facilities: Showers, toilets, administrative building log cabin, rest house, lockers

Access, Hours, and Fees: Drive to Imi Port and take the ferry (vehicles may board the ferry) / To make a Himeshima day trip without a car, take the 9:45 bus from Usa Station to Imi, get off at Imi Port (about 1 hour), take the 11 AM ferry from Imi Port to Himeshima Port, take the 3:20 PM return ferry and the 4:02 bus back to Usa Station / Beach season lasts from July 1st to August 31st

Itogahama Beach

6842 Ōga Hiji-machi, Hayami-gun

糸ヶ浜海浜公園

大分県速見郡日出町大神 6842

Features & Facilities: Shallow waters perfect for bringing children along, cooking area, (4) tennis courts, (2) athletic fields (perfect for baseball), outdoor stage, (8) log cabins, caravanning grounds equipped with electricity, tent camping grounds, shop, administrative building

Access, Hours, & Fees: Accessible by car from the Hiji Interchange (about 15 minutes away, 185 spots of free parking available) / Closed on Mondays except during July and August / Open from 9 AM to 10 PM in July and August and 9 AM to 7 PM in September / Entry is free / Facility fees vary

Kozaki Beach

Honkozaki Oita City

Features & Facilities: Showers, toilets, changing rooms, barbecue grill rental, rest house, campgrounds, cabin rental**Access, Hours, & Fees:** Accessible by car via Highway 197

神崎海水浴場

大分市本神崎

about 25 minutes from Oita City (250 spots of 500 yen parking available) / 15 minute walk from Kozaki Station / Park open from 9 AM to 6 PM / Facility fees vary

Ōjūki Beach

2296-1 Ōaza Shiuki Oita City

Features & Facilities: Beach hut, accessible for aquatic sports (e.g. canoeing, etc.)**Access, Hours, & Fees:** Beach hut open 9 AM to 6 PM in

大志生木海水浴場

大分市大字志生木 2296-1

season / Accessible by car via Highway 197 / Accessible by bus from Oita Station (take the bus headed towards Saga no Seki from bus stop #6 and get off at "Ōjūki")

Tanoura Beach

Tanoura, Oita City

田ノ浦ビーチ

大分市田ノ浦

When I first moved to Oita, my all-time favorite view was the sight of Beppu Bay on the train from Oita to Beppu. That beautiful view (and the beach that goes along with it) can be experienced up close and in person. You can swim there during the summer, but the palm trees that dot the landscape will take you back to warmer days no matter what season you visit in.

I'd recommend taking a bike ride with a friend on the roomy paths alongside the shore. The path surrounding the beach has multiple lanes and was designed with cyclists in mind. You can take your time, stop when you please in front of the beach, and even check out some of the surrounding sightseeing spots with ease. (The beach is located near Mt. Takasaki and Aquarium Umi Tamago.)

Features & Facilities: Warm showers, coin lockers, onsite rest house, huge boat-shaped piece of playground equipment**Access, Hours, and Fees:** Accessible by car via Highway 10 (about 15 minutes from Oita Station, parking available) / Accessible by bus from Oita Station (take the bus bound for Beppu from Oita Station bus stop #2 and get off at the "Tanoura" bus stop) / There are no entry fees. / The facilities are accessible between 9 AM and 11:30 PM. / Swimming possible during July and August.**Kuroshima Camp & Beach**

Kuroshima Kaisuiyokujō (Omoto, Sashiu, Usuki City)

Features & Facilities: Shower, changing rooms, toilet, shop, rest area, vending machine, tent rental**Access, Hours, & Fees:** Accessible by ferry (500 yen RT for

黒島キャンプ海水浴場

黒島海水浴場 (臼杵市佐志生字尾本)

adults) from Port Omoto (尾本港) in Sashiu, Usuki / Paid parking (500 yen) available at the port / Port accessible by train (15 minute walk from Sashiueki Station)

Takahama Beach

Takahama Kaisuiyokujō (Youra, Tsukumi City)

Features & Facilities: Toilets, changing rooms, showers**Access, Hours, & Fees:** Parking available / Accessible by bus

高浜海水浴場

高浜海水浴場 (津久見市四浦)

from Tsukumi Sta. (take the bus bound for Mamoto and get off at "Takahama")

Motosaru Beach

(Motosaru) Kamae Takenouragouchi, Saiki

Features & Facilities: Toilets, cooking space, shower**Access, Hours, & Fees:** Swimming from July 1st to August 31st Accessible by car via Highway 388 (60 spots of free parking)

元猿海水浴場

大分県佐伯市蒲江竹野浦河内 (元猿)

Accessible by bus from Saiki Station (take the bus towards Kamae, get off at Motosaru Kaisuiyokujō-mae)

You can always enjoy onsen water in Oita, but the ocean waters are a little more fickle. Swimming season in Japan only lasts a short time, so now is the time to get out there! No matter what it might feel like right now, summer won't last forever. ♦

EXHIBITIONS & SCREENINGS

Date	Description	Place	Cost	Contact #
Jun. 9 th – Aug. 1 st	OPAM 2017 Collection Exhibition II, “Mizu ni Ikou”	Oita Prefectural Art Museum (OPAM)	¥300	☎ 097-533-4500
Jun. 28 th – Jul. 30 th	The Allure of Drawings ~From the Artist’s Studio~	Oita Prefectural Art Museum (OPAM)	¥300	☎ 097-533-4500
Jul. 7 th – Sep. 3 rd	The Great Ghibli Exhibition ~From Nausicaä to Marnie~	Oita Prefectural Art Museum (OPAM)	¥1,400	☎ 097-533-4500
Jul. 11 th – Sep. 24 th	Art Wonderland 2017: I’m a Curator, Too	Oita City Art Museum	¥300	☎ 097-554-5800
Jul. 11 th – Sep. 3 rd	Cardboard Art Playground	Oita City Art Museum	¥800	☎ 097-554-5800
Jul. 28 th – Sep. 24 th	Family Medicine from Yesterday	Oita Prefectural Museum of History	¥310	☎ 0978-37-2100
Aug. 4 th – Oct. 3 rd	“Yakudō suru Katachi” (Lively Shapes)	Oita Prefectural Art Museum (OPAM)	¥300	☎ 097-533-4500
Sep. 14 th – Oct. 26 th	Genius, Dali Exhibition	Oita City Art Museum	¥1, 100	☎ 097-554-5800
Aug. 22 nd – Aug. 27 th	35th Takayama Tatsuo Prize Junior Exhibition	Oita Prefectural Art Museum (OPAM)	FREE	☎ 097-538-9647

Most Museums and Centers are closed on Monday, or Tuesday if Monday is a public holiday. Student admissions vary, highest cost shown.



STAGE & MUSIC EVENTS

Date	Time	Artist/Event	Venue	Cost	Contact #
Jul. 9 th	16:00	The Kyushu Symphony Orchestra	iichiko Grand Theater	¥3,000 -¥5,000	☎ 097-533-4005
Jul. 29 th	18:30	Cantaloop 20th Anniversary Live Show Vol. 4	Cantaloop II	¥2,500 w/drinks	☎ 097-548-5363
Aug. 26 th	18:30	Akira Inaba Acoustic Concert 2017 ~Distant Yearning~	Brick Block	¥6,000 +drink	☎ 097-536-4852
Jul. 29 th , Jul. 30 th	12:45 Sat., 11:45 Sun.	Pirate Ship 2017 (23 different bands in 2 days)	T.O.P.S Bitts Hall	¥7,000 (2 day ticket)	☎ 097-533-0467
Sep. 8 th	19:30	Terumasa Hino Quintet	Brick Block	¥7,500	☎ 097-536-4852

**Ticket prices range from student to most expensive general admission. Prices shown otherwise indicate price for purchase on the day of the event, they may be cheaper if purchased in advance. “w/ drink” prices include a drink, “+drink” prices require the additional purchase of a drink. Times shown indicate start times, doors usually open 30 minutes beforehand.

VENUES

Brick Block= 5-7-5 Ikushi, Oita City

Cantaloop II=3-2-30 Miyako-Machi

Nakayama Dai 5 Building 6F Oita City

iichiko Grand Theatre= Oasis Tower 1F Oita City

T.O.P.S BittsHall.= Ikushi 5-783, Oita City

Greetings from the New Editor



Hello there! My name is Sheridan McKisick, and I’m going to be taking over for Miriam as the editor-in-chief of the Tombo. I’m from the U.S., but I’m approaching my second year of life in Oita. My hobbies include reading Yoshimoto Banana novels, eating strange ice cream flavors, and wishing that the Forus in Oita City still existed. I’m still not an Oita expert (and I’m definitely nervous about taking over editing the Tombo), but I look forward to us learning new things together. Until next time!

Festivals and Events

Date	Event Description	Location	Contact #
~Mar. 31 st (2018)	'Burari-hito-tsumami' - Enjoy eating and drinking Taketa's food and drink! You can buy 3 tickets for 300 yen (1 ticket = 100 yen). This will be a big chance to find something special among Taketa's local snacks and drinks.	Taketa City Various locations	☎ 0974-63-0585
Jul. 1 st	Tanabata Festival decorations making workshop - A hands on event for children and parents to enjoy. Participation fee is 100 yen (incl. admission fee, 9:30 - 14:00), reservations necessary.	Oita City History Museum	☎ 097-549-0880
Jul. 8 th Aug. 19 th Sep. 9 th	Yufuin Onsen Kagura - Traditional Kagura dance performed by local groups (Participation fee is 500 yen, 20:30 - 21:30).	Yufu City Kuaju Yufuin	☎ 0977-84-4881
Jul. 14 th ~ 22 nd	Usuki Gion Festival - A traditional festival that started in 1643. There are 3 portable shrines and 2 floats paraded, "Owatari" on the 16 th (12:25 - 15:00) and "Okaeri" on the 22 nd (14:30 - 17:00).	Usuki City Castle town	☎ 0972-64-7130
Jul. 15 th	Earthenware bell making workshop - A hands on event for children and parents to enjoy. Participation fee is 60 yen (incl. admission fee), reservations necessary.	Oita City History Museum	☎ 097-549-0880
Jul. 15 th Aug. 19 th Sep. 16 th	Kimono Appreciation Day - Held on the third Saturday of each month, with special offers and discounts for kimono rental and professional photography.	Kitsuki City Jyouka-machi	☎ 0978-63-0100
Jul. 16 th ~ 17 th	Tsukumi Port Festival - A "Soiya Tsukumi" traditional dance on the 16 th (19:15 -), a fireworks display on the 17 th (20:00 - 21:00), and much more!	Tsukumi City Chuo-machi area	☎ 0972-82-9521
Jul. 22 nd ~23 rd	Hita Gion Festival - Hita Gion celebrates over 300 years of history. Here you can see a portable shrine that is 10 meters tall! On the 20 th from 19:00 -, all the floats will gather in front of JR Hita Station for a taste of what is to come. This festival is one of the "Yama, Hoko, Yatai float festivals in Japan" and is listed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity	Hita City Mameda & Kuma Area	☎ 0973-22-2036
Jul. 24 th ~ 25 th	Tenjin Festival - Portable shrines will be carried throughout the city, and on the evening of the 25 th there will be a shrine against shrine hitting competition.	Kitsuki City Tobimatsu Tenman Shrine	☎ 0978-63-0100
Jul. 28 th ~ 30 th	Beppu Summer Evening Festival - Over the three days there will markets, local food stalls, performances, and a fireworks display on the evening of the 30 th	Beppu City Kitahama Area	☎ 0977-24-2828
Jul. 28 th ~ 30 th	Nakatsu Gion Festival - This prefecture-designated "Intangible Cultural Property" has 580 years of history. Highlights include shrine processions and more! A fireworks display on the 28 th (20:00-).	Nakatsu City Nakatsu Shrine Area	☎ 0979-64-6611
Aug. 4 th ~ 6 th	Oita Tanabata Festival - This exciting summer festival takes place across downtown Oita and features parades, performances, and dances.	Oita City Downtown Area	☎ 097-537-5764
Aug. 6 th	Oita River Fireworks Festival - To celebrate the last day of the Oita Tanabata Festival, there will be a fireworks festival along the river.	Oita City Oita River	☎ 097-537-5764
Aug. 14 th ~ 15 th	Himeshima Bon-Odori Festival - Himeshima Bon-Odori dances are said to have come from Nenbutsu folk dances. Come see traditional local dances such as the 'fox dance', recreated and performed each and every year.	Himeshima Village Chuo-Hiroba	☎ 0978-87-2111
Aug. 19 th	Haniwa (clay images) making workshop - A hands on event for children and parents to enjoy. Participation fee is 230 yen (incl. admission fee, 9:30 -/14:00 -), reservations necessary.	Oita City History Museum	☎ 097-549-0880
Aug. 19 th ~Sep. 10 th	Sunflower Festa - 1.2 million sunflowers are in bloom, approx. 11.5ha of the Nagasakibana Resort campsite. Enjoy flowers and artwork (Yoko Ono's "Invisible Benches" and Choi Jeong Hwa's "Iro Iro Iro")!	Bungotakada City Nagasakibana	☎ 0978-23-1860
Aug. 19 th	Tsukumi Sensu Dance Ceremony - 1,000 dancers will dance with Japanese fans.	Tsukumi City Tsukumin Park	☎ 0972-82-9521
Aug. 26 th	Usuki Stone Buddha Fire Festival - 1,000 torches will be lit around the ancient stone Buddha carvings, which are nationally designated treasures. It is the biggest fire festival in western Japan!	Usuki City Fukata	☎ 0972-64-7130
Sep. 3 rd	Kudatama and Marudama bead-making workshop - A great hands on event for parents and children. Come along and experience making traditional beads. Participation fee ¥270 (incl. admission fee, 9:30 -/14:00 -), reservations necessary.	Oita City History Museum	☎ 097-549-0880
Sep. 9 th	Free onsen entrance - September 9 th is Kokonoe's designated hot spring day and designated facilities marked with posters let customers bathe for free!	Kokonoe-machi Various locations	☎ 0973-73-5505
Sep. 9 th ~ 10 th	The Ajimu Fair "Wine Festival 2017" - Various events such as Ajimu wine sampling and a bazaar. You can have your fill of Bungo Beef, wine, and more.	Usa City Ajimu Area	☎ 0978-44-1111 ☎ 0978-44-0381
Sep. 24 th	Rice field exploration - An outdoor exploration activity for adults to learn about the harvest and how to cook rice. (Participation is FREE. Reservations necessary. Bring clothes and shoes suitable for the outdoors and bring side dishes).	Kokonoe-Machi Kuju Furusato Shizen Gakkou	☎ 0973-73-0001

What's Going On?

From the Plaza

Free Legal Consultations for International Residents

The Oita International Plaza is holding free legal consultations for foreign residents on *the third Wednesday of every month*. (Except for May – please see below)

- When: **July 19th, August 16th, September 20th**
- Time: **13:00-16:00**
- Consultant: **Sei Ito (Administrative Solicitor)**
- Venue: **Oita International Plaza (iichiko Culture Center, B1F)**

Free Tagalog Consultations

The Oita International Plaza is holding free consultations in Tagalog.

- When: **July 1st, 18th; August 5th, 15th; September 2nd, 19th**
- Time: **13:00-16:00**
- Consultant: **Rhodora Yoshitake** (President of the Oita Philippines Friendship Association)
- Venue: **Oita International Plaza (iichiko Culture Center, B1F)**

Free Chinese Consultations

The Oita International Plaza is holding free consultations in Mandarin.

- When: **Every Thursday 10:00-13:00.**
- Time: **10:00-13:00**
- Consultant: **Cui Wenyu**
- Venue: **Oita International Plaza (iichiko Culture Center, B1F)**

(*Dates and times are subject to change. Please contact the Oita International Plaza before coming.) TEL: 097-533-4021

Free Consultations Regarding Immigration, Residency, and Citizenship

The Oita International Plaza is holding free consultations regarding immigration, residency, and citizenship on *the first Sunday of each month*. (Except for May – please see below)

- When: **July 2nd, August 6th, September 3rd**
- Time: **13:00-16:00**
- Languages available: **Japanese and English**
- Interpretation into **languages other than Japanese and English** may be available with a reservation (there are no guarantees). The reservation must be made 2 days prior to the consultation day.
- Venue: **Oita International Plaza (iichiko Culture Center, B1F)**

International Event Notifications

The Oita International Plaza will be announcing some international events that take place within Oita Prefecture on our social media pages in order to support organizations proactively fostering international relations.

Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/oitaplaza>

Twitter - <http://twitter.com/oitaplaza>

If you are interested in relaying information about an even, please send e-mail at the Plaza.

Mail: kobayashi-ikiyo@emo.or.jp

Japanese Lessons

Himawari Japanese Volunteers

Support for people learning Japanese in order to help them enjoy their lives in Oita, now at three different locations.

Wasada Public Hall Wed. 10:00-11:30

Meiji Akeno Public Hall Wed. 14:00-15:30

Tsurusaki Public Hall Sat. 10:00-11:30

For more information contact Ms. Fukata TEL: 097-527-2614

E-MAIL: nihongo_himawari_oita@yahoo.co.jp

Nihongo Rakuraku-talk

Beppu City Hall offers free Japanese lessons every Monday from 14:00-15:30. For more information contact Mr. Kii in the Beppu International Affairs Division

TEL: 0977-21-6133 E-MAIL: int-ma@city.beppu.oita.jp

Sakura Japanese Class

Come study Japanese with friendly volunteers and teachers in a pleasant atmosphere. Sakura Japanese Class is held every Monday from 10:15-12:00 at the Oita University International House in Nishiki-Machi, Oita City. Classes are free of charge. For more information call Ms. Ohashi CELL: 090-7866-2486

AIUEO Japanese Lessons

Volunteers offer free Japanese lessons on Tuesday and Friday from 10:20-11:50 at I-NESS near Oasis Tower as well as Thursday nights at Compal Hall from 18:30-20:30. Lessons are also offered in Beppu at the Beppu Foreign Tourist Information Office on Tuesday mornings from 10:00-12:00. For more information contact:

Ms. Miyase CELL: 090-8353-2485 (day lessons)

Ms. Kato TEL: 097-532-5940 (night lessons)

Community Classes and Events

Happy Talk

Come practice speaking Japanese with other learners and native speakers. Reservations not required, just show up on the day.

Please bring your own drink if you like. Participation is FREE. For more details and information on when Happy Talk is held, please visit the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/HappyTalkOita>

The Rules of Bicycling

Obey traffic signals. **Avoid** areas where entry is not permitted.

Mind traffic divisions. **Ride** on the left side of the road.

Do not enter under lowered railroad crossing gates.

Stop at intersections. **Do not** obstruct pedestrians on sidewalks.

Do not ride while under the influence of alcohol.

Do not cause accidents on your bicycle due to cell phone use.

Move out of the way of pedestrians when traveling on shoulder lanes.

Yield the right of way to cars turning right at intersections.

Do not ride bicycles without working brakes. **Do not** obstruct vehicles passing from the right at intersections.

Slow down on roads intended for pedestrians. **Respect** the right of way on roundabouts.

Use a raincoat instead of an umbrella when it rains. **Always** ride with your light on at night.

Do not let someone take a ride on the back of your bike. **Do not** bike side by side.

Keep one ear uncovered when using earbuds or headphones. **Do not** bike while “walking” a pet.



公益財団法人 大分県芸術文化スポーツ振興財団
おおいた国際交流プラザ
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 ☎ 097-533-4021 FAX:097-533-4052
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THANK YOU !!

A special thanks to all those who co-operated with us for this issue. Your help was very much appreciated.

THE TOMBO is produced by:

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<http://www.oitaplaza.jp/english/>

HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:30am-6:00pm

(closed weekends and the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. We

are open on the Saturdays before these Mondays)

Closed national holidays & Dec 29th - Jan 3rd

The International Plaza is located on the basement floor of OASIS Hiroba 21 (iichiko Culture Center).

