Calendar of Events May 2024



Notes:

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- 2. Dates, times and functions are subject to change without notice. Especially schedule of outdoor events and flower festival may change due to the weather.
- 3. The access shows only major route. Please refer to following URL for alternative transportation from the station where you want to start. https://japantravel.navitime.com/en/area/jp/route/
- 4. Japanese words appearing in the column provide the name of the event, the place and access for you to point out to Japanese passerby when you need help.
- 5. Please refer to URL (basically in Japanese) for each event. If you have further questions, please call TIC, JNTO at following number. ☐ TIC, JNTO Tel: (03)-3201-3331 from overseas +81 3 3201 3331

Glossary:

| Decelor | Buddhist saint who is seeking a state |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bosatsu | of spiritual enlightenment |
| Bugaku | Ancient court dance with music |
| Matsuri | Festival, Event |
| Mikoshi | Portable shrine |
| Noh | Traditional masked drama |
| Taiko | Japanese drum |
| Yamahoko/Yama | Float |

Special Remarks:

Dates and Times are shown as follows which is common in Japan.

Dates : M/D April 3 \Rightarrow 4/3 Time : 24 hours system 8:00am \Rightarrow 8:00

8:00pm ⇒ 20:00

Tango-no-sekku 端午の節句

Tango-no-sekku, Boy's Festival held on May 5. Families with boys display dolls that depict warriors or heroes, and fly carp streamers to express their hopes that the boys will advance in life, like strong carps that swim upstream. May 5 has been changed to become a national holiday called Children's Day to celebrate the growth of children regardless of boys or girls.

Ukai 鵜飼

Cormorant fishing, an ancient method of catching Ayu (sweetfish or trout-like fish), handling trained cormorants. (This takes place at night under the blazing torches fastened to the prows of fishing boats from May until October.)

<<<All event information is subject to change. Please be sure to check the latest information in advance.>>>

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Acc | ess | URL |
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| Tohoku 東北 | $1.4/10 \sim 5/5$ | | Hirosaki 弘前市 | Hirosaki Park 弘前公園 | Hirosaki Sakura Matsuri | Hirosaki Castle and along the castle's moat in Hirosaki Park. | 100 yen bus to Shivakushomae Bus Ston | JR奥羽本線弘前駅より徒歩30 分又は弘前市内循環100円バス 【弘南バス】で15分市役所前下 車、徒歩3分 | https://www. hirosakipark.j p/sakura/ |

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| Tohoku 東北 | | Yamagata 山形県 | Yonezawa 米沢市 | River and | Uesugi Matsuri | Summary: Festival in commemoration of the famous warlord "Uesugi Kenshin (1530-1578)". Schedule & Key events: ● 5/3 9:30- Parade of <i>Mikoshi</i> of Uesugi-jinja Shrine, through the city's main street 10:20- <i>Uesugi Gundan Gyoretsu</i> (a parade of <i>Samurai</i> warriors), through the city's main street 14:00- <i>Kawanaka-jima Gassen</i> (sham battle) at Matsukawa riverside | JR Yamagata Shinkansen Line to Yonezawa Sta. | JR山形新幹線米沢駅下車 | http://uesugi. yonezawa- matsuri.jp/ |
| Tohoku 東北 | | Iwate 完壬囘 | Hiraizumi -cho 平泉町 | Chuson-ji Temple, Motsu-ji Temple 中尊寺、 毛越寺 | Haru-no- Fujiwara Matsuri 春の藤原まつり | Summary: Festival featuring a procession of people playing the roles of historical figures and warriors and <i>En'nen-no-mai</i> (Shinto dance with music to pray for longevity and a good harvest of the year), designated as one of the National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties. Schedule & Key events: 5/3 10:00- Procession from Chuson-ji Temple to Motsu-ji Temple 13:30- Procession from Motsu-ji Temple to Konjikido in the precincts of Chuson-ji Temple 5/4 14:30- <i>Noh</i> performance at Hakusan-jinja Shrine in the precincts of Chuson-ji Temple 5/5 11:00- <i>En'nen-no-mai</i> at Motsu-ji Temple 13:00- <i>Noh</i> performance at Hakusan-jinja Shrine in the precincts of Chuson-ji Temple | JR Tohoku Honsen Line to Hiraizumi Sta., and then (1) Chuson-ji Temple: walk 20 min. (2) Motsu-ji Temple: walk 7 min. | | https://hiraizu mi.or.jp/event /haru_fuji.htm I |

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Ac | cess | URL |
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| Tohoku 東北 | 5/18 ~ 5/19 | Miyagi 宮城県 | Sendai 仙台市 | Shrine and | Sendai Aoba Matsuri 仙台青葉祭り | Summary: Festival featuring a parade of <i>Mikoshi</i> , children in fancy attire and warriors followed by 11 <i>Yamahoko</i> and townspeople dancing <i>Suzume Odori</i> (local Japanese dance). Schedule & Key events: • 5/18 10:00-21:00 <i>Suzume Odori</i> in Simin Hiroba (civic open space) and other sites in the city • 5/19 9:00- <i>Mikoshi</i> leaves Aoba-jinja Shrine to join <i>Jidai-emaki Junko</i> procession 12:00-15:00 Parade of <i>Mikoshi, Yamahoko</i> and <i>Suzume Odori</i> on Ichibancho Street, Higashi-Nibancho Street and Jozenji Street | JR Tohoku Shinkansen Line to Sendai Sta. From there, take Namboku Subway Line to Kotodai-koen Sta. | JR東北新幹線仙台駅より地下鉄 南北線で勾当台公園下車 | https://www. aoba- matsuri.com/ |
| Tohoku 東北 | $1 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow$ | Yamagata 山形県 | Sakata 酒田市 | | Sakata Matsuri 酒田まつり | Summary: Festival with over a 400-year history. The highlight of this festival is a parade of <i>Mikoshi</i> and gorgeous floats which include <i>Shishi-gashira</i> (shaped like a huge lions' head) along the city's main streets. Many more events are scheduled during the festival period. Schedule & Key events: ● 5/20 10:00- Parade of floats in the city 13:00- Parade of <i>Mikoshi</i> in the city | JR Uetsu Honsen Line to Sakata Sta., and then walk 15 min. | JR羽越本線酒田駅より徒歩15 | https://sakata - kankou.com/e vent/30728 |
| Chubu 中部 | | | Toki 土岐市 | I Irochi (Antar) | Toki Mino-yaki Matsuri | Summary: One of the biggest Ceramic Fair in Japan. <i>Mino-yaki</i> ceramic has a 400-year history. Schedule & Key events: • 5/3 & 4 9:00-17:00 • 5/5 9:00-16:00 | JR Chuo Honsen Line to Toki-shi Sta. (North Exit) From there, take free shuttle bus (every 15 min.) | | https://www. oribe- hills.com/ |

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| Chubu 中部 | | Shizuoka 静岡県 | Hamamat su | Nakatajima Tako-age Site and others 中田島凧揚げ会 場ほか | Hamamatsu Matsuri 浜松まつり | Summary: Kite Battle Festival. Huge kites are flown by groups of citizens, who compete each other by trying to cut the lines of their rivals' kites by skillful maneuvering. If it rains, the following events will be canceled. Schedule & Key events: • 5/3 & 4 10:00-15:00 Kite Battle 18:30-21:00 Parade of floats, through the city's main street • 5/5 12:00-15:00 Kite Battle 18:30-21:00 Parade of floats, through the city's main street | | JR東海道新幹線浜松駅下車、アクトシティイベントホール前よりシャトルバス (9:00-14:00) | http://hamam atsu- daisuki.net/m atsuri/ |
| Chubu 中部 | 5/11 ~ 10/15 | Gifu 岐阜県 | Gifu 岐阜市 | Nagara River 長良川 | Nagaragawa Ukai 長良川鵜飼 | Summary: Cormorant fishing, an ancient method of catching <i>Ayu</i> (sweetfish or troutlike fish), handling trained cormorants. It will be held every day during the period except on the night of the full moon (9/17 this year) or when the water is excessively muddy. Fee is 3,200 JPY or 3,500 JPY without meal. For reservation, please call 058-262-0104 (Gifu City Ukai Kanransen Jimusho), or reserve through the website. Schedule & Key events: • daily 19:45-20:30 (Departure time: 18:15, 18:45, 19:15) | • | JR東海道本線岐阜駅よりバスで 20分長良橋下車 | https://www. ukai- gifucity.jp/uka i/ |

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Acc | cess | URL |
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| Chubu 中部 | 5/17 ~ 5/19 | Shizuoka 静岡県 | Shimoda 下田市 | Shimoda Port and others 下田港ほか | Kurofune-sai 黒船祭 | Summary: Black Ship Festival started in 1934 is an international event that brings together Japanese and Americans and promotes friendly relations between the two nations. This festival was originally named after the historical event in 1854 when the U.S. Commodore Matthew C. Perry came to Shimoda by seven Black Ships (Kurofune in Japanese) in order to demand the opening of Japanese ports to the foreign countries. Many more events are scheduled during the festival period. If it rains, fireworks display will be held on the following day, the parades will be cancelled and the venues of Memorial ceremony and Tug of war will be changed. Schedule & Key events: 5/17 20:15-20:40 Fireworks display over Shimoda Port 5/18 10:00-11:00 Memorial ceremony at Shimoda Park 11:30-12:30 Parade of brass bands in the city 5/19 11:00-12:00 Parade of brass bands in the city 14:00-16:00 Tug of war at Kaikoku Shimoda Minato roadside station | From JR Tokyo Sta, take JR Limited Express "Odoriko" to Izu-Kyu Shimoda Sta. | JR東京駅よりJR特急"踊り子"で 伊豆急下田駅下車 | https://www. shimoda- city.info/kurof une |
| Hokuriku 北陸 | | | Takaoka 高岡市 | | Mikurumayama Matsuri 高岡御車山祭 | Summary: Festival, designated as both the National Important Tangible and Intangible Folk Cultural Property, and registered as the Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO. The highlight of this festival is a procession of seven floats featuring gorgeous goldwork and lacquer ware, which are local specialty industry and artifacts, escorted by people in traditional attire. If it rains heavily, the procession will be canceled. Schedule & Key events: 11:00-18:00 Procession of floats on the city's main streets 12:00 All floats meet at Katahara-machi Intersection | JR Johana Line to Takaoka Sta., and then walk 10 min. | | https://www.i nfo- toyama.com/e vent/20002/ |

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| Hokuriku 北陸 | 5/3 ~ 5/5 | Ishikawa 石川県 | Nomi 能美市 | Kutani Togei- mura and others 九谷陶芸村 ほか | Matsuri | Summary: Pottery Fair of <i>Kutani-yaki</i> Ware. The event will be held at several sites this year. Schedule & Key events: • 5/3 & 4 9:00-18:00 • 5/5 9:00-17:00 | JR Hokuriku Shinkansen Line to Kanazawa Sta. From there, take IR Ishikawa Railway Line to Nomineagari Sta., and then take bus to Izumidai Community Center Bus Stop, and then walk 8 min. | JR北陸新幹線金沢駅よりIRいしかわ鉄道で能美根上駅下車、バスで泉台コミュニティセンター下車、 | https://kutani - shoukumi.or.j p/news/ |
| Hokuriku 北陸 | 5/4 ~ 5/5 | Toyama 富山県 | Johana, Nanto 南砺市 城端 | Hikiyama Kaikan and others 曳山会館前 ほか | Johana Hikiyama Matsuri 城端曳山祭 | Summary: Festival, designated as one of the National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties, and registered as the Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO. The highlight of this festival is <i>Hikiyama Junko</i> , a procession of <i>Mikoshi</i> and <i>Yama</i> . <i>Karakuri Ningyo</i> (mechanically manipulated dolls) and <i>Iori-uta</i> (the folk song native to the Johana area) are performed on <i>Yama</i> . Schedule & Key events: • 5/5 9:00-22:00 | JR Johana Line to Johana Sta., and then walk 10 min. | JR城端線で城端駅下車、徒歩 | http://www.ta bi- nanto.jp/archi ves/10503 |
| Kinki 近畿 | 4/28 ~ 5/2 | | Ise 伊勢市 | Ise-jingu Shrine - Naiku 伊勢神宮 (内宮) | | Summary: Spring Festival of the shrine. Performance of <i>Bugaku</i> (ancient court dance with music) is dedicated to the shrine on a makeshift stage at Naiku. If it rains, the place of performance will be held at Sanshuden. Schedule & Key events: • daily 11:00- <i>Bugaku</i> performance | JR Tokaido Shinkansen Line to Nagoya Sta. From there, take (1) Kintetsu Yamada Line to Ujiyamada Sta., and then take bus to Naiku-mae Bus Stop (10 min.) (2) JR Rapid Train "Mie" to Ise-shi Sta., and then take bus to Naiku-mae Bus Stop (15 min.) | (1) 近鉄山田線で宇治山田駅下 | https://www.i sejingu.or.jp/r itual/annual/k agurasai.html |

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| Kinki 近畿 | | Kyoto 京都府 | Kyoto | Mibu-dera Temple 壬生寺 | Mibu Kyogen 壬生狂言 | Summary: Medieval pantomime, designated as one of National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties. <i>Mibu Kyogen</i> , 30 pantomime skits, have been handed down, and some of them will be performed. Admission is 1,000 JPY. The number of audience will be limited to 400 people daily. Schedule & Key events: • daily 13:00-17:30 • 5/5 18:30-21:30 | From JR Kyoto Sta., take municipal bus No. 26 or 28 to Mibudera-michi Bus Stop, and then walk 3 min. | JR京都駅より市バスNo. 26又は 28で壬生寺道下車、徒歩3分 | http://www.m ibudera.com/i ndex.html |
| Kinki 近畿 | | Kyoto 京都府 | Kyoto | Senbon Enma- do Temple 千本えんま堂 | Enma-do Kyogen | Summary: Kyogen (traditional comic drama) performance at the temple. Admission is free. Schedule & Key events: • 5/1 & 2 | From JR Kyoto Sta., take municipal bus No. 206 to Senbon Kuramaguchi Bus Stop | JR京都駅より市バスNo. 206で 千本鞍馬口下車すぐ | https://ja.kyot o.travel/event /single.php?ev ent_id=4734 |
| Kinki 近畿 | 5/1 ~ 5/5 | Kyoto 京都府 | Kyoto 京都市 | Fujinomori-jinja Shrine and others 藤森神社ほか | Fujinomori Matsuri 藤森祭 | Summary: The highlight of this festival is <i>Kakeuma-Shinji</i> (acrobatic horseback riding with a 1,200-year tradition). Many other events are scheduled during the festival period. Schedule & Key events: • 5/5 9:00-18:30 Procession of <i>Mikoshi</i> and <i>Musha-Gyoretsu</i> (warriors' processions), through the towns 13:00- & 15:00- <i>Kakeuma-Shinji</i> in the precincts of the shrine | (1) JR Nara Line to Fujinomori Sta., and then walk 5 min. (2) Keihan Honsen Line to Sumizome Sta., and then walk 7 min. | (1) JR奈良線藤森駅より徒歩5 分 (2) 京阪本線墨染駅より徒歩7 分 | https://ja.kyot o.travel/event /single.php?ev ent_id=4733 |

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| Kinki 近畿 | 5/) | Nara 奈良県 | | Todai-ji Temple and others 東大寺 ほか | | Summary: The Buddhist memorial service for the Emperor Shomu who announced the Imperial Rescript to build the statue of Big Buddha in the temple. If it rains, Bugaku and Noh plays will be performed in the Kinsho hall at Todai-ji Culture Center. Schedule & Key events: 13:00- Procession of people in ancient costumes from Nara Kasugano International Forum IRAKA to Daibutsuden in the temple 13:30- Bugaku play on the makeshift stage on Kagami-ike pond 15:00- Noh play on the makeshift stage on Kagami-ike pond | JR Nara Line to Nara Sta. or Kintetsu Nara Line to Kintetsu Nara Sta. From there, take Nara Kotsu bus to Todai-ji Daibutsuden· Kasuga Taisha-mae Bus Stop, and then walk 5 min. | JR奈良線奈良駅又は近鉄奈良 線近鉄奈良駅より奈良交通バス | http://www.to daiji.or.jp/ |
| Kinki 近畿 | | Kyoto 京都府 | | Shimogamo- jinja Shrine 下鴨神社 | Yabusame- Shinji やぶさめ神事 | Summary: Horseback archery, associated with Aoi Matsuri Festival held on 5/15. Schedule & Key events: 13:00-15:30 Ritual pray and <i>Yabusame</i> in the precincts of the shrine | From JR Kyoto Sta., take municipal bus No. 4 or 205 to Shimogamo Jinjya-mae Bus Stop | JR京都駅より市バスNo. 4又は 205で下鴨神社前下車 | https://ja.kyot o.travel/event /single.php?ev ent_id=4385 |
| Kinki 近畿 | | Nara 奈良県 | Kashihara | Kume-dera Temple 久米寺 | Nerikuyo Eshiki 練供養会式 | Summary: Requiem Parade. Procession of people wearing face masks of <i>Bosatsu</i> crosses a long bridge in the temple, which is believed to link this world with the Pure Land. Schedule & Key events: 15:00- Procession of <i>Bosatsu</i> | (1) JR Tokaido Shinkansen Line to Kyoto Sta. From there, take Kintetsu Kashihara Line to Kashihara Jingu-mae Sta., and then walk 6 min. (2) JR Nara Line to Nara Sta. From there, take Kintetsu Nara Line to Yamato-Saidaiji Sta., and change to Kintetsu Kashihara Line to Kashihara Jingu-mae Sta., and then walk 6 min. | (1) JR東海道新幹線京都駅より 近鉄橿原線で橿原神宮前駅下 車、徒歩6分 (2) JR奈良線奈良駅より近鉄奈 良線で大和西大寺駅にて近鉄橿 原線に乗り換え橿原神宮前駅下 車、徒歩6分 | https://ya matoji.nara - kankou.or.j p/01shaji/0 2tera/03ea st_area/ku medera/ev ent/npujk1 g0n2/ |

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| Kinki 近畿 | 5/5 | | Kita-ku, Kyoto 京都市 北区 | - | Kamo Kurabe- Uma 賀茂競馬 | Summary: Horse racing of olden times. Riders wearing fancy court robes demonstrate courtly horsemanship. Schedule & Key events: 14:00- Horse racing | 1)From JR Kyoto Sta., take municipal bus No. 4 to Kamigamo Jinja-mae Bus Stop 2)From JR Kyoto Sta., take municipal bus No. 9 to Kamigamo Misonobashi Bus Stop., and then walk 5 min. | 2)JR京都駅より市バスNo. 9で上 賀茂御薗橋下車徒歩5分 | o.travel/event |
| Kinki 近畿 | 5/15 | | Kyoto 京都市 | | Aoi Matsuri 葵祭 | Summary: Hollyhock Festival of the shrines. This 1,500-year old festival features a magnificent pageant which colorfully reproduces the Imperial procession that used to pay homage to these shrines in ancient days. The procession consists of the ox-drawn carriages, courtiers and court ladies clad in ancient court robes, and men holding flower-decorated umbrellas, all decorated with Hollyhock leaf. If it rains, the festival will be postponed to the next day. Schedule & Key events: 10:30-11:40 Procession from Kyoto Imperial Palace to Shimogamo-jinja Shrine, taking Kawaramachi-dori Street 14:20-15:30 Procession from Shimogamo-jinja Shrine to Kamigamo-jinja Shrine, taking Kitaoji-dori Street | (1) Kyoto Imperial Palace: Karasuma Subway Line to Marutamachi Sta. (2) Shimogamo-jinja Shrine: From JR Kyoto Sta., take municipal bus No. 4 or 205 to Shimogamo Jinja- mae Bus Stop (3) Kamigamo-jinja Shrine: From JR Kyoto Sta., take municipal bus No. 4 to Kamigamo Jinja-mae Bus Stop | 1705でト鴨神汁町ト申 1 | https://ja.kyot o.travel/event /major/aoi/ |

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| Kinki 近畿 | 5/17 ~ 5/19 | Hyogo 兵庫県 | Himeji 姫路市 | Around Himeji Castle 姫路城周辺 | Himeji Oshiro Matsuri 姫路お城まつり | Summary: Festival featuring <i>Himeji Daimyo Gyoretsu</i> (a warriors' procession) and <i>Soodori</i> (folk dancing parade by 1,000 townspeople). Many more events are scheduled during the festival period. Schedule & Key events: ● 5/17 17:45-21:00 <i>Takigi Noh</i> (an open-air masked drama by torchlights) performance at San'nomaru Hiroba ● 5/18 14:00-15:00 Procession of <i>Sen-hime</i> (princess Sen) on Otemae-dori Street 15:20-16:00 <i>Himeji Daimyo Gyoretsu</i> on Otemae-dori Street 16:30-17:30 <i>So-odori</i> parade on Otemae-dori Street ● 5/19 10:00-17:30 Events for children at San'nomaru Hiroba | JR Sanyo Shinkansen Line to Himeji Sta., and then walk 20 min. | JR山陽新幹線姫路駅より徒歩 20分 | https://www. city.himeji.lg.j p/oshirofes/ |
| Kinki 近畿 | | Kyoto | Kyoto 京都市 右京区 | Oi River, Togetsukyo Bridge and others 大堰川、 渡月橋ほか | Mifune Matsuri 三船祭 | Summary: Boat Festival, held on Oi River near Arashiyama. This festival features "Ofuna-asobi" (which literally means playing & pleasure on the boat), in which people wearing various costumes of Heian period (794-1185) play a variety of Japanese traditional performing arts. The festival may be cancelled depending on the weather conditions. Schedule & Key events: "Ofuna-asobi" on Oi River near Togetsukyo Bridge | Togetsukyo Bridge: 1)Keifuku Arashiyama Honsen Line or Hankyu Arashiyama Line to Arashiyama Sta. 2)From JR Kyoto Sta., take munincipal bus No.28 to Arashiyama Koen Bus Stop | | http://www.k urumazakijinja .or.jp/ |
| Chugoku 中国 | | Shimane 島根県 | Izumo 出雲市 | Izumo Taisha Shrine 出雲大社 | Daisairei 大祭礼 | Summary: Annual Festival of the shrine. Schedule & Key events: • 5/15 12:00- Procession of shrine's Mikoshi | JR San-in Honsen Line to Izumoshi Sta. From there, take (1) Ichibata Railway Kitamatsue Line to Kawato Sta., and change to Ichibata Railway Taisha Line to Izumo-Taisha-mae Sta., and then walk 10 min. (2) bus to Izumo Taisha Bus Stop (25 min.) | 駅にて一畑電鉄大社線に乗り換 え出雲大社前駅下車、徒歩10分 (2) バスで25分出雲大社下車 | https://izumo oyashiro.or.jp / |

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|---------------|------------|--------------|------------------|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| Shikoku 四国 | L/2 | Kochi 高知県 | d, Shimanto | Ichijo-jinja Shrine and others 一條神社ほか | Tosa Ichijo Kuge Gyoretsu "Fuji Matsuri" 土佐一条公家行列 「藤祭り」 | Summary: Festival featuring an elegant pageant of people in court costumes of the Muromachi period, when the aristocracy Ichijo and his family moved into Nakamura from Kyoto in 1468 in order to avoid civil wars. The event is rather small in scale this year. Schedule & Key events: 12:00- Taiko performance 13:30- Procession from Ichijo-jinja Shrine, parading through the city | JR Dosan Line to Kochi Sta. From there, take JR Limited Express to Nakamura Sta. via Tosa Kuroshio Railway Nakamura-Shukumo Line, and then walk 20 min. | JR土讃線高知駅よりJR特急で土 佐くろしお鉄道中村宿毛線経由 中村駅下車、徒歩20分 | https://www. shimanto- kankou.com/k anko/culture/f ujimatsuri.ht ml |
| Kyushu 九州 | | Saga 佐賀県 | Imari | Okawachi- yama 大川内山 | Imari Kamamoto Ichi 伊万里窯元市 | Summary: Spring Ceramic Fair where 30 <i>Kamamoto</i> (kilns) in this area participate in. Many stalls selling ceramics at bargain prices are set up at the main fair site. Schedule & Key events: • daily 9:00-17:00 | JR Sanyo Shinkansen Line to Hakata Sta. From there, (1) take JR Limited Express "Midori" to Arita Sta., and change to Matsuura Tetsudo Line to Imari Sta., and then take bus to Okawachi-yama Bus Stop (15 min.) (2) walk 1 min. to Hakata Bus Terminal. From there, take Highway Bus to Imari Sta. (2h), and then take bus to Okawachi-yama Bus Stop (15 min.) | JR山陽新幹線博多駅より (1) JR特急"みどり"で有田駅にて 松浦鉄道線に乗り換え伊万里駅 下車、バスで15分大川内山下車 (2) 徒歩1分の博多バスターミナル から高速バスで2時間伊万里駅下 車、バスで15分大川内山下車 | |
| Kyushu 九州 | 4/29 ~ 5/5 | Saga 佐賀県 | Arita-cho 有田町 | Arita-cho 有田町 | Arita Toki Ichi 有田陶器市 | Summary: Ceramic Fair in the city. Schedule & Key events • daily 8:00-17:00 | JR Sanyo Shinkansen Line to Hakata Sta. From there, take JR Limited Express "Midori" to Arita Sta. | JK山陽新軒線博多駅よりJK特忌 "ルジカ"で有田駅下車 | https://www. arita- toukiichi.or.jp/ |

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Ac | cess | URL |
|---------------|-----------|----------------|--|--|----------------|--|--|----------------|---|
| Kyushu 九州 | 5/3 ~ 5/4 | | Hakata- ku, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka 福岡市 博多区 中央区 | Hakata-ku, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka 福岡市 博多区 中央区 | Hakata Dontaku | Summary: Festival featuring a procession of <i>Hakatamatsubayashi</i> in which three Deities of Good Fortune in disguise, escorted by people wearing traditional clothes, and children in fancy costumes dancing to the music parade. The entire city, especially Dontaku Hiroba in front of City Hall is filled with townspeople singing and dancing with rice paddles in hands, and various entertainments are staged daily in the city. Schedule & Key events: 5/3 8:50-16:20 | JR Sanyo Shinkansen Line to Hakata Sta. | JR山陽新幹線博多駅下車 | http://www.d ontaku.fukune t.or.jp/ |
| Okinawa 沖縄 | 5/3 ~ 5/5 | Okinawa 沖縄県 | Naha 那覇市 | Naha Port Shinko Wharf 那覇港新港ふ頭 | | Summary: "Hari" Boat Race, peculiar to Okinawa, in which young men show their strength and skills at sea in Naha Port Shinko Wharf. Schedule & Key events: • 5/3 10:00-17:00 Boat race • 5/5 10:00-17:15 Boat race • daily 20:00- Fireworks display over the port | From Naha Airport, take taxi (25 min.) | 那覇空港よりタクシーで25分 | https://www. naha- navi.or.jp/ma gazine/2024/0 2/44598/ |

Calendar of Events May 2024



Notes:

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- 2. Dates, times and functions are subject to change without notice. Especially schedule of outdoor events and flower festival may change due to the weather.
- 3. The access shows only major route. Please refer to following URL for alternative transportation from the station where you want to start.

https://japantravel.navitime.com/en/area/jp/route/

- 4. Japanese words appearing in the column provide the name of the event, the place and access for you to point out to Japanese passerby when you need help.
- 5. Please refer to URL (basically in Japanese) for each event. If you have further questions, please call TIC, JNTO at following number.

TIC, JNTO Tel: (03)-3201-3331 from overseas +81 3 3201 3331

Glossary:

| Matsuri | Festival, Event |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| Miko | Shrine maiden |
| Mikoshi | Portable shrine |
| Otabisho | Portable shrine resting place |
| Taiko | Japanese drum |

Special Remarks:

Dates and Times are shown as follows which is common in Japan.

Dates: M/D April 3 \Rightarrow 4/3 Time: 24 hours system 8:00am \Rightarrow 8:00

8:00pm ⇒ 20:00

Tango-no-sekku 端午の節句

Tango-no-sekku, Boy's Festival held on May 5. Families with boys display dolls that depict warriors or heroes, and fly carp streamers to express their hopes that the boys will advance in life, like strong carps that swim upstream. May 5 has been changed to become a national holiday called Children's Day to celebrate the growth of children regardless of boys or girls.

<<<All event information is subject to change. Please be sure to check the latest information in advance.>>>

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Ac | cess | URL |
|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|
| Tokyo 東京 | 4/30 ~ 5/3 | Tokyo 東京都 | Silibuya-ku 法公区 | Meiji-jingu Shrine 明治神宮 | Meiji-jingu Haru-no Taisai 明治神宮春の大祭 | Annual Spring Festival of the shrine. Many Japanese performing arts are performed during the festival period. Schedule & Key events: Details are still to be arranged | (1) JR Yamanote Line to Harajuku Sta. (West exit), and then walk 1 min. (2) Tokyo Metro Chiyoda or Fukutoshin Line to Meiji-Jingumae Sta. (C03, F15), and then walk 1 min. | (1) JR山手線原宿駅(西口)より 徒歩1分 (2) 東京メトロ千代田線又は副都 心線明治神宮前駅より徒歩1分 | https://www.m eijijingu.or.jp/ev ent/ |

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Acc | cess | URL |
|-------------|------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| Tokyo 東京 | 4/30 ~ 5/6 | Tokyo 東京都 | Fuchu 府中市 | Okunitama-jinja Shrine, Kyu-Koshu-kaido Street and others 大国魂神社、 旧甲州街道ほか | Kurayami Matsuri (Okunitama-jinja Reitaisai) くらやみまつり (大国魂神社例大祭) | | (1) Keio Line to Fuchu Sta. (South Exit), and then walk 5 min. (2) JR Nambu or Musashino Line to Fuchu-Hommachi Sta., and then walk 5 min. | (1) 京王線府中駅 (南口) より徒歩5分 (2) JR南武線又は武蔵野線府中 本町駅より徒歩5分 | https://www.oo kunitamajinja.or .jp/matsuri/5- kurayami.php |
| Tokyo 東京 | 5/2 ~ 5/4 | Tokyo 東京都 | Heiwajima, Ota-ku 大田区平和 島 | Tokyo Ryutsu Center Building 東京流通センタービ ル | Heiwajima Kotto Matsuri 平和島骨董まつり | Summary: The oldest Antique Fair. Admission is free. Please enter an hour before the closing time on 5/4. Schedule & Key events: • 5/2 & 5/3 10:00-17:00 • 5/4 10:00-16:00 | Tokyo Monorail Line to Ryutsu Center Sta., and then walk 1 min. | 東京モノレール流通センター駅より徒 歩1分 | https://kottouic hi.com |
| Tokyo 東京 | 5/2 ~ 5/5 | Tokyo 東京都 | Chuo-ku 中央区 | Teppozu Inari- jinja Shrine and others 鉄砲洲稲荷神社ほか | Teppozu Inari- jinja Reitaisai 鉄砲洲稲荷神社例大 祭 | Summary: Annual Festival of the shrine. The highlight of this festival is a procession of <i>Horen</i> (palanquins) & <i>Mikoshi</i> and <i>Kodomo Kabuki</i> (traditional play by boys). Schedule & Key events: • 5/3 8:00-16:00 | JR Keiyo Line or Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line to Hatchobori Sta. (H12), and then walk 5 min. | JR京葉線又は東京メトロ日比谷線 八丁堀駅より徒歩5分 | https://yayoikai. sakura.ne.jp/ |

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Acc | cess | URL |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| Tokyo 東京 | 1 5/5 | - | Taito-ku 台東区 | Senso-ji Temple 浅草寺 | Takara-no-mai 宝の舞 | Summary: Japanese traditional dance in celebration of Children's Day. <i>Takara-bune</i> (a shipshaped float laden with treasure) is drawn by children from Denbo-in Temple to Senso-ji Temple. Schedule & Key events: 11:00- & 13:30- | Tokyo Metro Ginza Line or Toei Asakusa Subway Line to Asakusa Sta. (G19, A18), and then walk 5 min. | | https://www.se nso- ji.jp/annual_eve nt/ |
| Tokyo 東京 | | Tokyo 東京都 | Taito-ku 台東区 | Asakusa-jinja Shrine, Nakamise-dori Street and others 浅草神社、 仲見世通りほか | Sanja Matsuri 三社祭 | Summary: The festival is counted as one of the Tokyo's grandest. <i>Daigyoretsu</i> (a big parade of people in traditional attires) to the tune of the festival music, <i>Binzasara-mai</i> (<i>Shinto</i> dance) and <i>Mikoshi</i> parade are the highlights. Schedule & Key events: • 5/17 13:00- <i>Daigyoretsu</i> through the town, proceeding on Nakamise-dori Street to the shrine 14:20- <i>Binzasara-mai</i> performance in Shaden Hall 15:00- <i>Binzasara-mai</i> performance in Kaguraden stage • 5/18 12:00- Parade of around 100 <i>Mikoshi</i> through the town 16:00- <i>Miko</i> dance on Kaguraden stage • 5/19 6:30- Parade of three <i>Mikoshi</i> in the shrine's neighborhood 14:00- <i>Miko</i> dance on Kaguraden stage 15:00- Japanese traditional dance on Kaguraden stage | Tokyo Metro Ginza Line or Toei Asakusa Subway Line to Asakusa Sta. (G19, A18), and then walk 7 min. | | https://www.as akusajinja.jp/sa njamatsuri/ |
| Tokyo 東京 | $15/74 \sim 5/7/1$ | I OKYO 東京都 | Shinjuku- ku 新宿区 | Hanazono-jinja Shrine and others 花園神社ほか | Hanazono-jinja Reitaisai 花園神社例大祭 | Summary: Annual Festival of the shrine. | (1) Tokyo Metro Marunouchi Line Fukutoshin Line or Toei Shinjuku Subway Line to Shinjuku-Sanchome Sta. (M 09, F13, S02) (Exit E2) (2) JR Yamanote Line to Shinjuku Sta.(East Exit), and then walk 7 min. | (1) 東京メトロ丸ノ内線、副都心線 又は都営地下鉄新宿線新宿三丁 目駅 (E2出口)下車 (2) JR山手線新宿駅(東口)より徒 歩7分 | http://hanazono -jinja.or.jp/ |
| Tokyo 東京 | | Tokyo 東京都 | Bunkyo-ku 文京区 | Yushima Tenjin Shrine and others 湯島天神ほか | Yushima Tenjin Reitaisai 湯島天神例大祭 | Summary: Annual Festival of the shrine. <i>Mikoshi</i> parade through the neighborhood. Schedule & Key events: • 5/25 12:00-18:30 Parade of <i>Mikoshi</i> | (1) Tokyo Metro Chiyoda Line to Yushima Sta. (C13), and then walk 2 min. (2) Tokyo Metro Ginza Line to Ueno-hirokoji Sta.(G15), and then walk 5 min. | (1) 東京メトロ千代田線湯島駅より 徒歩2分 (2) 東京メトロ銀座線上野広小路 | https://www.yu shimatenjin.or.j p/pc/index.htm |

| Regio | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Acc | cess | URL |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| Tokyo 東京 | 5/27 ~ 6/16 | Tokyo 東京都 | Katsushika- ku 葛飾区 | Horikiri Shobuen, Mizumoto Park 堀切菖蒲園、 水元公園 | Katsushika Shobu Matsuri 葛飾菖蒲まつり | Summary: Shobu (iris) Flower Festival, held in Horikiri Shobuen and Mizumoto Park. Various events are scheduled during the festival period. Schedule & Key events: Detailas are still to be arranged | 10 min. | (1) 堀切菖蒲園: 京成線堀切菖蒲園駅より徒歩10分 (2) 水元公園: JR常磐線又は京成金町線京成金 町駅よりバスで水元公園下車徒歩7 分 | tsushika- kanko.com/new |
| Kanto 関東 | 4/27 ~ 5/6 | Tochigi 栃木県 | Mashiko- machi 益子町 | Mashiko-machi 益子町 | Mashiko Toki Ichi 益子陶器市 | | Line to Utsunomiya Sta. (West Exit) From No.14 Bus Stop, take bus (for Mashiko Sta.) to Mashiko Sta.(1 hour | (1) JR東北新幹線小山駅よりJR水戸線で下館駅にて真岡鉄道線に乗り換え益子駅下車(2) JR東北新幹線宇都宮駅下車(西口)、14番バス乗り場よりバス益子駅行で1時間10分益子駅下車(3) 秋葉原バスターミナルより高速バスで2時間半陶芸メッセ入口下車※臨時便は要予約 | https://toukiichi .mashiko- db.net/ |
| Kanto 関東 | 4/29 ~ 5/5 | Ibaraki 茨城県 | Kasama 笠間市 | Kasama Geijutsu-no-mori Park 笠間芸術の森公園 | Kasama-no- Himatsuri 笠間の陶炎祭 (ひまつり) | Summary: Pottery Fair. Over 200 stalls are set up in the park. Entry fee is 500JPY. **Special bus services between the Mashiko Toki Ichi venue and the Kasama-no-Himatsuri venue on 4/29, 5/3-5/5 will be operated. (500JPY) Schedule & Key events: • daily 9:00-17:00 | bus (15 min.) (3) From Akihabara Bus | 又は路線バスで10分 (2) JR常磐線友部駅 (北口) より 周遊バス又は臨時バスで15分 (3) 秋葉原バスターミナルより高速バスで1時間40分やきもの通り下車※ 臨時便は要予約 | https://www.hi matsuri.net/ |

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Acc | cess | URL |
|-------------|-----------|------------------|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Kanto 関東 | 5/3 | _ | Yokohama 横浜市 | Yamashita Park, Red Brick Warehouse and others 山下公園、 赤レンガ倉庫ほか | | Summary: International Masquerade Parade. The main parade leaves Yamashita Park, passing by Aka Renga Soko (Red Brick Warehouse) and proceeding on Bashamichi Ave., for Isezakicho 6-chome area. If it rains, the parade will be canceled. Schedule & Key events: 11:15- Super Parade in the city | (1) Tokyu Toyoko Line or Yokohama Minatomirai Line to Motomachi-Chukagai Sta. or Bashamichi Sta. (2) JR Keihin Tohoku or Negishi Line to Kannai Sta. | (1) 東急東横線又は横浜みなとみらい線元町・中華街駅又は馬車道駅下車 (2) JR京浜東北線又は根岸線関内駅下車 | https://www.yo kohama- cci.com/ |
| Kanto 関東 | 5/3 | _ | Odawara 小田原市 | Odawara Castle Park and others 小田原城址公園ほ か | Odawara Hojo Godai Matsuri | Summary: The largest festival in the city, featuring <i>Musha Gyoretsu</i> (a warriors' procession) consisting of 1,700 people from Akagane-mon Gate of the castle, going through the city. Many events are scheduled in this area, such as artillery performance, Ninja performance, Odawara Lantern Dance and so on. Schedule & Key events: 11:50-12:20 | JR Tokaido Shinkansen Line or Odakyu Odawara Line to Odawara Sta. (East Exit), and then walk 10 min. | JR東海道新幹線又は小田急小田 原線小田原駅 (東口) より徒歩10 分 | https://www.od awara- kankou.com/top ics/article/hojog odai.html |
| Kanto 関東 | 5/3 & 5/5 | 持工目 | Nishi- hoshubana, Kasukabe 春日部市西 宝珠花 | Edogawa River 江戸川河川敷 | Kasukabe-Otako- age Matsuri 春日部大凧あげ祭り | Summary: Giant Kite Flying Festival. Flying smaller kites, each weighing 150 kg and giant kites, each weighing 800 kg are featured. If it rains on both dates, the festival may be postponed to 5/6. Schedule & Key events: • 5/3 & 5 13:00-17:00 Small kite flying 14:00-17:00 Giant kite flying | Tobu Skytree Line to Kasukabe Sta. (East Exit) From there, take bus to Otakokoen-Iriguchi Bus Stop (35 min.) | 東武スカイツリーライン春日部駅 (東口) よりバスで35分大凧公園入口下車 | https://www.cit y.kasukabe.lg.jp /soshikikarasaga su/kankoshinko ka/gyomuannai/ 1/1/3940.html |
| Kanto 関東 | 5/4 ~ 5/5 | Kanagawa 神奈川県 | Zama 座間市 | Zakaebashi Bridge, Sagami River ground 座架依橋、 相模川グラウンド | Zama-no-Otako Matsuri 座間の大凧まつり | Summary: Giant Kite Flying Festival on the riverbank near Zakaebashi Bridge over Sagami River. Open-air stalls are set up and various events are scheduled at venue. The festival may be canceled depending on weather conditions. Schedule & Key events: • 5/4 11:30-16:00 Kite Flying • 5/5 11:00-15:00 Kite Flying | Odakyu Odawara Line to Sobudai-mae Sta., and then take shuttle bus (20 min.) (The shuttle bus runs every 20 min.,9:00-15:00) | 小田急小田原線相武台前駅より シャトルバスで20分(毎20分間隔で 運行。9:00-15:00) | https://www.cit y.zama.kanaga wa.jp/event/kan kyokeizi/100154 4/1008268.html |
| Kanto 関東 | 5/4 ~ 5/5 | Kanagawa 神奈川県 | Sagamihar a 相模原市 | Shindo Sports Hiroba and others 新戸スポーツ広場ほ か | Sagami-no-Otako Matsuri 相模の大凧まつり | Summary: Giant Kite Flying Festival at four venues along Sagami River, mainly at Shindo Sports Hiroba. A giant kite of 14.5 square meters, weighing 950 kg will fly. Openair stalls are set up. The festival may be cancelled depending on weather conditions. Schedule & Key events: • daily 10:00-16:00 | Shindo Sports Hiroba : JR Sagami Line to Sobudai- shita Sta., and then walk 15 min. | 新戸スポーツ広場: JR相模線相武台下駅より徒歩15分 | http://www.sag ami- oodako.com/5- festival/index.ht ml |

| Region | Dates | Pref. | City | Venue | Event | Summary | Acc | cess | URL |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| Kanto 関東 | 5/5 | _ | Oiso-machi 大磯町 | Rokusho-jinja Shrine, Mt. Kamisoroi, Bamba Park and others 六所神社、 神揃山、 馬場公園ほか | Sagami- Konomachi 相模国府祭 | Summary: Annual festival of Rokusho-jinja Shrine and five other shrines. Parade of six Mikoshi and traditional Japanese dance performances are the highlights. Schedule & Key events: 7:00- Mikoshi of five shrines start from each shrines to parade to Mt. Kamisoroi 11:50- Mikoshi of Rokusho-jinja Shrine parade to Bamba park through the town 12:00- "Zamondo" ritual is conducted on Mt. Kamisoroi 13:50- Mikoshi of five shrines start from Mt. Kamisoroi to Bamba park Sagi-no-mai (Heron Dance) is performed at Bamba Park | Rokusho-jinja Shrine: JR Tokaido Line to Oiso Sta. From there, take bus to Kokufu-Shinshuku Bus Stop, and then walk 5 min. | 六所神社 : JR東海道線大磯駅よりバスで国府 新宿下車、徒歩5分 | https://rokusho. jp/index.php/20 24/04/03/new- 5-2-3/ |
| Kanto 関東 | 5/17 ~ 5/18 | Tochigi 栃木県 | Nikko 日光市 | Tosho-gu Shrine and others 東照宮ほか | Nikko Tosho-gu Shunki Reitaisai 日光東照宮春季例大 祭 | Summary: Grand Spring Festival of the shrine. Procession of armor-clad people followed by Mikoshi is the highlight. Schedule & Key events: ●5/17 13:30-14:30 Yabusame (horseback archery) performance ●5/18 11:00-11:40 Procession from Futarasan-jinja shrine to Otabisho 12:00-12:40 Bugaku (ancient court dance with music) performance at Otabisho 13:00-13:30 Procession from Otabisho to the shrine | JR Nikko Line to Nikko Sta. or Tobu Nikko Line to Tobu- Nikko Sta. From there, take bus to Nishisando Bus Stop (10min.), and then walk 5 min. | JR日光線日光駅又は東武日光線 東武日光駅よりバスで10分西参道 下車、徒歩5分 | https://www.toc higiji.or.jp/event /e15062 |
| Kanto 関東 | 5/17 ~ 6/16 | Ibaraki 茨城県 | Itako 潮来市 | Suigo Itako Ayame-en 水郷潮来あやめ園 | Suigo Itako Ayame Matsuri 水郷潮来あやめまつり | Summary: Ayame (iris) Flower Festival. A million iris flowers of 500 species are in bloom in the garden. Admission is free. Yomeiri-fune (a boat escorting a bride) and Itakobayashi festival music are performed during the festival period. Schedule & Key events: • daily 18:30-22:00 Flowers are lit up • every Wednesday 11:00- Yomeiri-fune • every Saturday 11:00-,14:00- & 19:30- Yomeiri-fune • every Sunday 11:00- & 14:00- Yomeiri-fune 13:00-13:40 Gionsairei odori (Japanese local folk dance) accompanied by Itakobayashi festival music | (1) JR Kashima Line to Itako Sta., and then walk 3 min. (2) From Tokyo Sta. Yaesu South Exit, take highway bus to Suigo Itako Bus Terminal (80min.) | (1) JR鹿島線潮来駅より徒歩3分 (2) 東京駅八重洲南口より高速バスで80分水郷潮来バスターミナル下車 | https://www.cit y.itako.lg.jp/pag e/page005638.h tml |