



PLAZA NEWS



Miyazaki International Foundation B1 Carino Miyazaki, Tachibanadori Higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City 880-0805

Tel: 0985-32-8457 Fax: 0985-32-8512 Email: miyainfo@mif.or.jp Homepage: <https://www.mif.or.jp/>

Open: Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm Closed: Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays and December 29 to January 3

19th Annual Art Festival Exhibition "Miyazaki-From the Outside Looking in" Now Entries are open!

We encourage foreign residents and any citizens with roots overseas living in Miyazaki prefecture to enter.

◆**Theme:** "Miyazaki"

◆**Categories:** Photography, Painting/Drawing, Calligraphy, Handicraft (Except Videos)

◆**Entry Limit:** Up to 2 entries per person in each division

◆**Size:** Up to 50 cm by 50 cm ◆**Entry Deadline:** Aug 20 (Tue)

◆**How to enter:** Please enter your artworks along with the submission form to the Miyazaki International Foundation.

*The submission form can be found and downloaded on the following page.

<https://www.mif.or.jp/english/news-and-topics/4392/>



Forms are also available at the Miyazaki International Foundation. *All entries will be displayed.

◆**Display Period and Venue:**

1. Sep 4(Wed) - Sep 18(Wed) 10am-7pm at Carino Miyazaki B1F
*Closed: Sundays, Mondays, and National Holidays

2. Sep 21(Sat) 11am - 4pm at Miyazaki Municipal University Library Cross Lounge

◆**Awards:** Prizes and certificates will be awarded to the top pieces as chosen by visitors.

*Participation prizes will be given to those who submit their works.

◆**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation

A Brief Introduction to What's on at the Miyazaki International Foundation in over the 2024/5 Financial year

The Miyazaki International Foundation is planning to hold the following courses over the coming year. Here we'd like to introduce our projects to support Japanese language learning. Further information will be posted on our website (<https://www.mif.or.jp/>) and Facebook page, and in Plaza News nearer the time.

【Learning Japanese】

- Japanese Language Course (Carino, University of Miyazaki, Online)
- Regional Japanese Language Classes
- Hinata Nihongo Koryukai
- Training Course for Volunteer Japanese Language Tutors
- Japanese language teacher training
- Japanese Speech Contest

◆**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



Introduction of Japanese language volunteers *Free, Registration Required

Foreigners or Japanese returnees in Miyazaki who wish to study Japanese language will be introduced to registered Japanese language volunteers upon request. Study location, hours, and contents will be decided by the learner and the tutor themselves.

◆**Target:** Foreign residents of Miyazaki Prefecture

◆**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation



Japanese Calligraphy Experience Corner *Free, No Registration Required

We are setting up a 'Calligraphy Experience Corner' at the Miyazaki International Plaza. Come along and draw your favourite words on the theme of 'Miyazaki' for display at the Art Festival in September!

◆**Dates & Time:** July 9 (Tue) - August 10 (Sat)
10:00am - 7:00pm

*Closed on Sundays, Mondays and National holidays.

◆**Location:** CARINO Miyazaki B1 floor,
Miyazaki International Plaza

◆**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



Disaster Management Seminar for Foreign Residents in Kawaminami *Free, Registration Required

Let's learn what to do in the event of and how to prepare for natural disasters in this seminar!

◆**Date & Time:** July 21 (Sun) 10:00am - 12:00 noon

◆**Location:** Kawaminami-chō Nōsonkankyōkaizen Center
(Kawaminami-chō, Ōaza Kawaminami, 13680-1)

◆**Target:** Foreigners living in Kawaminami

◆**Lectures covering:** Natural disasters, How to prepare for them and How to evacuate in the event of them etc.

◆**Spaces Available:** 30 ◆**Fee:** Free

◆**To Apply:** Email us with your full name, nationality, and contact details (work phone number also permitted).
Email: kawaminamijapan@gmail.com

◆**Application Deadline:** July 12 (Fri)

◆**Inquiries:** Kawaminami Japanese Language Class

Email : kawaminamijapan@gmail.com TEL : 080-3711-4326



Miyazaki International Plaza Counter Volunteer Recruitment

We are currently looking for volunteers from within Miyazaki Prefecture, 18 years of age or older, to work at the front counter of the Miyazaki International Plaza and assist Plaza staff. To apply, interested parties should submit a completed application form by September 3rd (Tue).

*Nationality will not play a role in choosing applicants. However, volunteers are expected to speak some basic Japanese.

◆**Volunteer Period:**

October 1 (Tue), 2024 to March 29 (Sat), 2025

◆**Volunteer Time:**

One day a week from Tue to Sat from;
A. 10:15 am - 12:45 pm **B.** 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Volunteers will work on the same day and during the same time period from week to week.

◆**Tasks:** Assisting Plaza visitors, assist in lending out and checking in library materials sending out documents, organizing library materials, arranging and forwarding used stamps, etc.

◆**Other:** Volunteer's insurance will be covered by the International Foundation. and parking vouchers will be issued to volunteers making use of the CARINO Miyazaki Parking Lot

◆**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation



Talk with the CIRs ♪ *Free, Registration Required

How about having a chat with the Coordinators for International Relations from the Prefectural Government?

★A chat with Katherine from England (Japanese & English)

◇Date & Time: ①July 5 (Fri) 3 - 4 pm
②July 19 (Fri) 3 - 4 pm



◇Registration Deadline: ①June 28 (Fri) ②July 12 (Fri)

★A chat with Yu Ding from Singapore (Japanese & Chinese)

◇Date & Time: July 23 (Tue) 6 - 7 pm

◇Registration Deadline: July 16 (Tue)



★A chat with Haejeong from South Korea (Japanese & Korean)

◇Date & Time: July 18 (Thu) 3 - 4 pm

◇Registration Deadline: July 11 (Thu)



◇Venue: CARINO Miyazaki B1 Miyazaki International Plaza

◇Spaces Available: 4 (Priority will be given to people who have participated less frequently)

*We accept applications by phone, email or in person.

◇Inquiries/Registration: Miyazaki International Foundation



Staff's Tweet

Are you familiar with goshuin? These are the stamps and calligraphy seals you can buy when you visit a shrine or a temple. They are inscribed with the name of the shrine or temple, and the date you visited. Each one is different from shrine to shrine, with special limited edition and colourful goshuin also available.



To receive a goshuin, you usually need a specialized book for collecting them called a goshuin-chō. If you don't have one, there are some shrines that will provide paper to stamp. I always get mine on my New Years shrine visit, or when I'm travelling.

Recently, paper cut-out goshuin have also become available, and many shrines and temples have uploaded their goshuin designs for you to find online. If one of them catches your eye, it might be worth going to visit the shrine it came from.
(Staff: H)

A Message from the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents

Daily Life Consultations for Foreign Residents (English) *Free, Reservation Required

Consultations are available in English about any problems in your life. Consultations are strictly confidential.
*Reservation required. (Appointments are available on the day.)

◇Date & Time: July 20 (Sat) 2:00pm - 4:00pm

◇Venue: Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents
(Online Consultations (using Zoom) are also available.)

◇Spaces Available: 4

◇Inquiries & Application:

Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents
(Carino Miyazaki B1F)

TEL: 0985-41-5901 FAX: 0985-41-5902

E-mail: support@mif.or.jp



Local Announcements



< Nobeoka City >

International Chat Night ~ ALT Farewell Party ~

Looking for a way to connect to the local or international community in Nobeoka? This is the event for you. Since three of our ALTs are leaving, we will also hold a farewell party.

Please feel free to bring snacks and drinks.

◇Date & Time: July 5 (Fri) 18:30-20:30

◇Venue: 1st Floor Shimin-Space, Nobeoka City Hall

◇Fee: Free/No registration required / Come and go as you please!

◇Inquiries: Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Office

TEL: 0982-22-7006

Email: kokusai@city.nobeoka.miyazaki.jp



< Kobayashi City >

Local Japanese Class "KIZUNA" *Free, Registration Required



A class where you can speak, read, and write Japanese. It is a class where you can enjoy speaking with the Japanese language teacher and people of Kobayashi. Children can participate with you. (A daycare teacher will look after your children.)

◇Date & Time / Theme:

• July 28 (Sun) 10:00am - 12:00pm / Going shopping

• August 11 (Sun) 10:00am - 12:00pm / Preparation for summer festivals

◇Venue: TENAMU building (Kobayashi City Hosono 1897)

◇Target: Foreign residents who want to speak Japanese

◇Registration & Inquiries: Kobayashi City Regional

Revitalisation Division TEL: 0984-23-1148



Confessions of a scaredy-cat

"The Dreaded Suzumebachi"



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR
Katherine Kessler

Hi everyone! Hope you're all enjoying/enduring the summer. Today I'd like to confess maybe the biggest fear I have when it comes to living in Japan: suzumebachi. They're known to be the biggest and most aggressive hornets in the world. Having grown up in the UK, where the most alarming creepy crawly around is an oversized harmless house spider, I was always wary of encountering suzumebachi. I used to comfort myself with the notion that they're rarely seen, especially in cities.

But even in the short time I've been here, I feel like I've seen more than my fair share of suzumebachi. Case in point: I had barely been here a month when a hornet decided to grace me with its presence inside the office, on my desk. I could hardly believe my eyes, and bolted out of my seat – but it had already flown out the way it came before anybody even noticed it besides my neighbour, and nobody paid it the slightest heed. Just like that, one of my worst-case-scenarios came and went. And even in that awful moment, I had to concede: it just didn't look very threatening. It was even quite beautiful, in a way.

I admit that I still flinch at big flying shapes and run away when I glimpse suzumebachi, but I'm slowly getting used to coexisting with them. Because despite the media sensationalism around them (Americans unhelpfully nicknamed them 'murder hornets'), they're just insects minding their own business, and are no keener to mess with me than I am with them. They're certainly not worth being so anxious that I avoid walking around the beautiful Japanese countryside – especially when they seem perfectly happy to visit me at my workplace anyway!

