Latest Kagoshima News
Flower Park Kagoshima held their Meiji Restoration 150 Year Anniversary memorial tree planting.

Flower Park Kagoshima held their Meiji Restoration 150 Year Anniversary Memorial Tree Planting.
The tree called a Kibanaipei planted for this year's planting blooms vivid yellow blossoms from late March to mid-April, which are common spring flowers seen in the Ibusuki area.
Also, on this day the spring festival was held, and children could be seen having fun participating in pressed flower art and flower pot planting workshops.
At Flower Park Kagoshima you can enjoy flowers of the four seasons, and we are looking forward to your visit.
Before I knew it, a third of the year has gone by. Dear readers, how has 2018 treated you so far?

For this early part of the year, I have travelled around the prefecture at an astonishing pace - visiting major tourist attractions and facilities as part of my job and going to little-known hot spots with local friends on my off days. As such, I am proud to say that I know much more now about my second home that is Kagoshima. By coincidence, friends from around the country and overseas have been coming to visit me in succession since the year began, and my itineraries for them are a mix of popular attractions, personal favourites, and places that I’m interested in, chosen from a list of destinations that I have been to or know about. As a result, the areas ‘conquered’ have grown, and similarly the number of times I have visited certain mainstay attractions has increased as well.

Even so, I have come to realise that one will never tire of Kagoshima. Recently I had to return to the same few places in the Nansatsu region for work, one week after I brought a friend who had come from London there. I took part in the bus tour without much enthusiasm, but then I noticed that the wisteria flowers blooming in the Japanese garden just one week earlier had wilted, and conversely the azalea flowers that were just green buds then were now turning the hedge pink. Furthermore, production at the shochu distillery had come to an end and the intoxicating aroma no longer wafted through the building.

I think making such small discoveries is the privilege of being a local. The longer you stay in one place, the less you tend to notice the things around you. However, one should not take Kagoshima, with all its diverse attractions crammed into its wide expanse, lightly. There are still many places waiting to be explored, and even if I revisit somewhere, it will feel different in another season. Of course, there are also times when I seek out an unchanging comfort.

For instance, I wanted to let my friend on his second trip to Kagoshima experience the same awe I felt on Iwojima Island. When I first visited the island for work, I was blown over by the magnificent active volcano, the seas and coasts painted in rainbow colours by hot spring water, and the sight of a white peacock leisurely strolling about in a school compound. Unfortunately, all the rooms for that day were booked.
We decided to go to neighbouring Takeshima Island instead, which I was equally curious about. During our stay, the weather was so fine we could see Iwojima Island and even distant Kuroshima Island. As a tourist destination, Takeshima may pale in comparison to Iwojima, but nonetheless I experienced many lifetime firsts here on this seemingly unremarkable island. At the rockpools sparkling under the glaring sun, we observed not only colourful seaweed and fishes, but also crabs, starfishes, sea urchins, and even moray eels and sea snakes! Kind islanders played the biggest part in making our island holiday memorable. Once my friend and I got off the ferry, a man and his 4-year old grandson brought us to our guesthouse in his minivan, and when we bumped into them again a while later he offered to take us on a tour around the island. Besides driving us around, he also taught us how to pick bamboo shoots and the young leaves of a nutrient-rich plant (Peucedanum japonicum) growing wild on the roadside, while the friendly boy shared with us the wild raspberries he had picked. They both came to send us off at the end of our trip.

Koshikishima Island, Okinoerabu Island, Yoron Island... There are so many charming islands of Kagoshima that are still uncharted territory for me, but at the same time I know there remain many experiences to be had even in familiar parts. I will endeavour to live life like a traveller: to notice even the tiniest changes in my daily life and treasure every moment here.
Information about Kagoshima Specialty Products
Akumochizake Fully Matured Pickled Plum Liquor

“Kagoshima’s Delicacies” Regional Specialty Product Contest Kagoshima Region Food Category Grand Prize
F​ully matured Satsuma Saigo Pickled Plums from Satsuma Town in Kagoshima Prefecture were combined
with Kagoshima’s unique local spirit (Akumochizake) to make this liquor. The aroma of these fragrant
plums, and the unique savoury flavour of the ash which contains natural amino acids intermingle to create a
rich palate of flavours.
Seasonal Tourism Information
The 85th Yamakawa Minato Matsuri Festival

On June 2nd and 3rd (Saturday and Sunday), the Yamakawa Minato Matsuri Festival will take place at the Yamakawa port and surrounding areas. At this festival to pray for the prosperity of the port, and safety in navigation, there will be a parade of fishing boats, and a procession with a portable mikoshi shrine and dancers will weave through the streets. There will be a live fish grab, a katsuo tataki fish broiling, a dried bonito bargain sale, as well as a fireworks display the night before.
From the Editors (Kagoshima Prefecture International Affairs Division)
What did you think of this month’s “Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings”? The editors will continue to strive to make this prefectural foreign language newsletter a source of information and a bridge to connect all of you to Kagoshima. We'd like to ask our readers to provide their opinions, suggestions, article contributions and Kagoshima-related news.

▲ ▼ ▲ ▼  Inquiries▲ ▼ ▲ ▼
International Affairs Division, PR and Tourism Strategy Department
Kagoshima Prefectural Government
10-1 Kamoike-shinmachi, Kagoshima City, Japan 890-8577
BY EMAIL
English : cir1@pref.kagoshima.lg.jp  Japanese : minami@pref.kagoshima.lg.jp
Chinese : cir2@pref.kagoshima.lg.jp  Korean : cir3@pref.kagoshima.lg.jp
Kagoshima Prefecture owns the copyright to this report. Any and all unauthorized use of this report (redistribution, BBS, posting, etc) is prohibited.