



PLAZA NEWS



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

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



Plaza Holiday Closing

The International Plaza will be closed on February 11th (Tue) for the public holiday.



Multicultural Coexistence Lecture My thoughts on "Multiculturalism": Start with what we share. ※Free, Registration required

The number of foreign residents in Miyazaki is increasing every year. Our prefecture is home to people from a variety of cultural backgrounds, who support our society alongside everybody else. How can we foster mutual understanding of our cultural and language differences, and create a welcoming community together? Our next speaker is Vitor, born in Brazil before moving to Japan on the other side of the world at the age of six. Come and listen to his insights, so we can think more deeply about multiculturalism! *The talk will be given in Japanese.

◇Date and Time : March 1st (Sat) 10:00am - 12:00noon

◇Venue: Kenden Hall (Miyazaki Prefecture Enterprise Bureau Building 1st floor)

◇Lecturer: Mr. Vitor (TV Personality)

◇Capacity: 50 (first come, first served)

◇Cost: Free

◇How to apply: Please apply through the URL or the 2-dimensional barcode below.

<https://forms.gle/CmUnkTfoTgPW2h9bA>

◇Application due: February 20th (Thu)

◇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: ①February 14(Fri) 3 - 4 pm

②February 28(Fri) 3 - 4 pm

◇Registration Deadline:

①February 7(Fri) ②February 21(Fri)



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

◇Date & Time: February 25(Tue) 4 - 5 pm

◇Registration Deadline: February 18(Tue)



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

◇Date & Time: February 27(Thu) 6 - 7pm

◇Registration Deadline: February 20(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

Hinata Nihongo Navi

"Hinata Nihongo Navi" is a portal site for foreign residents in Miyazaki Prefecture who want to learn Japanese and Japanese residents who want to support their learning. Efforts such as Japanese language courses and learning supporter training courses implemented in each municipality are posted. Please take advantage of it.

<https://hinatanihongo.mif.or.jp/english/>



◇Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation

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 March 6th (Thu).

In the case of multiple applicants, potential volunteers will undergo a screening process.

*Nationality will not play a role in choosing applicants.

However, volunteers expected to speak some basic Japanese.

◇Volunteer Period:

April 8th (Tue) to September 30th (Tue) *Excluding Holidays

◇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.

◇Others: Transportation expenses not covered;

no monetary rewards (*however, 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.)

◇Application dead Line: March 6th (Thu)

◇Application: Download the application form here→

◇Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation



Staff's Tweet

Picasso's "Dove of Peace" caught my eye at a gallery the other day, in an exhibition on World Art. This image was also used as the poster for the International Peace Conference, and Picasso named his youngest daughter Paloma ("dove"), which explains why there are so many dove-themed artworks in his oeuvre. On the weekend, when I was taking a walk around a shrine, I came across these charming little birds, and found the sight of them quite soothing. When I asked about them, I was told they're called yamagara, and that they're commonly seen around the shrine. A few years ago, when I was walking through the woods in Australia, I encountered a laughing kookaburra, and burst out laughing myself at the way its cackling birdcall contrast with its sweet and unassuming appearance. Birds bring us comfort in so many ways. I really appreciate the moments when I turn my attention towards nature and feel its serenity. I hope that peaceful natural world stays with us for a long time.



(Staff: I)

Local Announcements



<Nobeoka City> International Chat Night

Looking for a way to connect to the local or international community in Nobeoka? This is the event for you.

- ◇**Date & Time** : February 6th (Thu) 6:30pm - 8:30pm
- ◇**Venue**: 2nd Floor, Koudou, Nobeoka City Hall (Parking available)
- ◇**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**:

- February 9th (Sun) 10:00am - 12:00noon/ Preparation for cooking
- February 23rd (Sun) 10:00am - 12:00noon/ Cooking

◇**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



<Ebino City> Counselling session and tea party for foreign residents *Free, Registration Required

Foreign residents based in the city: are you having any difficulties? Whether you want someone to teach you Japanese language or culture, help with shopping, or if you just want to make friends, we're here to offer guidance and support for all areas of daily life. And on the same day, there'll be a chance to socialize and drink tea. Please feel free to drop by!



◇**Date & Time**: March 2nd (Sun) 2:00pm - 4:00pm

◇**Location**: Ebino City International Exchange Center

◇**Inquiries & Application**: Please contact us at least two days in advance if you'd like to come to a counselling session.

Ebino City International Exchange Center

TEL: 0984-35-3211 Email: ebino-kokusai@chic.ocn.ne.jp

A Message from the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents

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



Consultations are available in Tagalog about any problems in your life. Consultations are strictly confidential.

*Reservation required.

(Appointments are available on the day.)

◇**Date & Time**: February 15th (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



Confessions of a scaredy-cat

"The Open Road"



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR
Katherine Kessler

Here we are in the new year, and I have another confession for you all: it's been nine months and I have seen almost none of Miyazaki's rural areas. Not Takachiho Gorge, not Aya forest, not Nichinan, and not Toi no Misaki, with its unique wild horses. Apart from a few one-off day trips, my spare time has been spent enjoying the low-key pleasures of the city.

There is a simple reason behind this: I can't drive. While this fact tends to elicit reactions of dismay from local and foreign residents of Miyazaki alike, it has so far been surprisingly fine. As my job involves going to schools in some far-flung parts of the prefecture, I've had to be quite creative and patient with Miyazaki's limited public transport options, but I've made it work. What can I say? I was raised in the city. And truthfully, I can't imagine myself behind the wheel. It's so alien that I've just never considered it an option.

But the thing is, I really would like to see the Misaki horses. I checked how long it would take by public transport, and the answer was effectively a day - I'd need to spend a night in Nichinan, which would book up a whole weekend. And the Aya suspension bridge can only be reached by car, turns out. Maybe one day I'll hitch a ride with a friend to these places, and if that doesn't happen then I can live without seeing them. But I'm finding myself tempted by the total freedom that driving a car would bring. And this temptation - more than a feeling of obligation - might just be the thing that finally gets me out of that can't-do mindset. So, here's my tentative promise to learn to drive this year. Or at least take one lesson.

