



PLAZA NEWS



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

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

20th 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: Sep 10 (Wed)

◇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/4778/>



Forms are also available at the Miyazaki International Foundation.

*All entries will be displayed.

◇Display Period and Venue:

1. Sep 27 (Sat) 11am – 4pm at Miyazaki Municipal University Library Cross Lounge

2. Oct 2 (Thu) – Oct 25 (Sat) 10am-7pm at Carino Miyazaki B1F

*Closed: Sundays, Mondays, and National Holidays

3. Jan 7 (Wed) – Jan 16 (Fri) 8:30am-6:00pm at Miyazaki Prefectural Government Hall, Disaster Prevention Hall Ground Floor

*Closed on weekends and National Holidays

4. Pieces will be exhibited in other areas of the prefecture

◇Awards: Prizes and certificates will be awarded to the top pieces in the first two exhibitions, as chosen by visitors.

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

◇Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation



Traditional Japanese Culture Workshop for Foreign Residents in Miyakonojo "Bamboo lantern workshop" *Free, Registration Required

It's fun making your own Bamboo Lantern – using Miyazaki Bamboo!

◇Date & Time: Sep 20 (Sat) 1:00pm – 3:00pm

◇Venue: Meeting Room, Japanese-style room 3,
2nd Floor, Miyakonojo Community Center
(10-7 Himegicho, Miyakonojo)

◇Instructor: Mr. Ogawa Takahiro (Wood Working Expert)

◇Spaces Available: 15 (First-come, first-served)

◇Target: Foreign residents of Miyazaki

◇Fee: Free

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

Applications are also accepted by phone or email.

<https://forms.gle/nffYPajfMWczF43w5>

◇Application Deadline: September 6 (Sat)

◇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: ①Aug 1 (Fri) 3:00pm - 4:00pm

②Aug 15 (Fri) 3:00pm - 4:00pm

*①② Priority will be given to students

◇Registration Deadline: ①July 30 (Wed) ②Aug 8 (Fri)



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

◇Date & Time: ① Aug 12 (Tue) 3:00pm – 4:00pm

② Aug 19 (Tue) 4:00pm – 5:00pm

*①Priority will be given to students

◇Registration Deadline: ① Aug 5 (Tue) ②Aug 12 (Tue)



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

◇Date & Time: Aug 28 (Thu) 3:00pm – 4:00 pm

*Priority will be given to students

◇Registration Deadline: Aug 21 (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

International Understanding Lecture - Kyrgyzstan *Free, Registration Required "The Unknown Stories and Culture of Kyrgyzstan"

We invite two exchange students from Kyrgyzstan to speak to us about their home country of the silk road, where diverse peoples and cultures exist in harmony with a nomadic society born from rich natural surroundings.

◇Date & Time: Oct 11 (Sat) 2:00pm - 4:00pm

◇Venue: Miyazaki City Central Public Hall Small Meeting Room

◇Lecturer: Mr. Mars, Mr. Adilet (Exchange student)

◇Spaces Available: 24 (First-come, first-served)

◇Fee: Free

◇To apply: Please apply through the URL or the 2-dimensional barcode below. Applications are also accepted by phone or email.

<https://forms.gle/Pg6xs1LdawWGK1bT6>



◇Application Deadline: September 30 (Tue)

◇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 favorite words on the theme of 'Miyazaki' for display at the Art Festival!

◇Dates & Time: August 1 (Fri) - September 6 (Sat)
10:00am- 7:00pm

*Closed on Sundays, Mondays and National holidays.

◇Location: CARINO MiyazakiB1 floor,
Miyazaki International Plaza

◇Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation



A Message from the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents

Notice for 2025 National Census

The census is the most important statistical survey. It covers all people living in Japan and their households.

The census is an important survey that can be used for improving the living environment, disaster prevention planning, and various other administrative measures indispensable to our daily lives.

○ Who is counted in the census

All people (including non-Japanese people) living in Japan as of October 1, 2025 and their households will be counted in the survey.

From late September 2025, census takers will visit each household and distribute census documents. You can respond either online or by completing the printed census questionnaire and mailing it or handing it to the census taker. (The census will be conducted according to the process in the diagram below.)



<Statistics Bureau of Japan>

<https://www.kokusei2025.go.jp/about/en/>

Watch out for heatstroke !

To help you get through the hot summer months, why not try a local Miyazaki dish in hiyajiru: rice in cool miso soup.



(August Event)



Event	Date	Venue	Contact/Information
Miyazaki Noryo Fireworks	August 2 (Sat)	Miyazaki City Oyodo Riverbank	Miyazaki Chamber of Commerce 0985-22-2161
Summer Festival Hinokage 2025	August 16 (Sat)	The former Hinokage Town Hall	Hinokage Town Commercial and Industrial Association 0982-87-2210
Takajo Kannon-ike Matsuri	August 31 (Sun)	Miyakonojo Takajo Kannon-ike Park	Miyakonojo City Takajo Tourism Association 0986-58-6900

Hinata Japanese Classes (In-Person)

The Miyazaki International Foundation offers introductory Japanese language courses for people from overseas living in Miyazaki prefecture. There is no charge for this course.

Learn some essential Japanese to help you be more active in your local community!

*For more information, please visit our website or Facebook page.

<Introductory class>

◇**Date & Time:** September 5 (Fri) to October 8 (Wed)

Every Wednesday and Friday 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

10 lessons in total

◇**Target:** Those learning Japanese for the first time

◇**Class Size:** 10 people

◇**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation

◇**To Apply:** Please visit Hinata Nihongo Navi website for more details.

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



Local Announcements

<Tano>

The 33rd Tano Taiko Festival

~ Love Taiko Drumming? Love Festivals? Then in Summer, it has to be Tano! ~ *Free

At this event, spectators can enjoy some impressive taiko drumming performances, such as Tano's famous local *Amadaiko*. Make sure to check it out!

◇**Date & Time:** August 30 (Sat) 4:00pm - 9:00pm

◇**Location:** Multipurpose Plaza, Tano Sports Park

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Tano General Branch Office, Community Welfare Division Tel:0985-86-1111



Confessions of a scaredy - cat

“ (Provisionally) Licensed ”



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR
Katherine Kessler

Welcome back to another instalment of Your Local CIR Learns to Drive. It's my pleasure to announce to you all that I've obtained my provisional Japanese driving license! This allows me to continue driving lessons with an instructor out on the roads. For readers coming from countries where it's commonplace to start learning to drive this way, this may seem a bit excessively cautious, especially when I tell you I've had 12 hours' worth of practical lessons and had to pass an exam not dissimilar to the one used for converting an international license to a Japanese one. But as we know from my induction test, I'm an anxiety-riddled egocentric, so being too cautious is fine by me.

What I was less chilled about was the setup of the exam itself, which turned out to involve taking the practical test with the next examinee sitting in the backseat. Supposedly it's to allow you to get a feel for the course before you take the wheel, but after a lifetime of having exams treated with the same confidentiality as confession booths and medical visits, the sudden introduction of an audience kind of threw me off my game, adding to the usual exam-nerves an unexpected social embarrassment factor. What if the 18-year-old in the back is unimpressed with my cringe-fail foreigner driving? I thought, before proceeding to start moving the vehicle without turning on my right indicator.

I did pass in the end, despite that initial glaring mistake, and my safety checks apparently being “too late and not thorough enough” (that was the one thing I thought I was doing right!) I'm guessing the real final exam won't be as lenient, but I do feel more confident now. That solo road trip to Kushima is getting closer all the time!

