



# 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 "Miyazaki from the Outside Looking In" Art Exhibition ~ Carino Miyazaki BF1 ~ \*Free

The "Miyazaki from the Outside Looking In" art exhibition is a hit with visitors every year, and this year we welcome its 20th instalment. We invite all residents from overseas living in Miyazaki to submit pieces of art expressing their feelings on the theme of "Miyazaki". Visitors vote on the top prize for each category of photography, shodo (calligraphy), paintings/drawings and handmade crafts. Come along to cast your vote, and to discover new sides to Miyazaki through these artworks. We look forward to seeing you there!

◆Date: Oct 2 (Thu)-Oct 25 (Sat) 10:00am-7:00pm

\*Closed: Sundays, Mondays, and National Holidays

◆Venue: Carino Miyazaki B1F, Communal space

◆Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation



## International Understanding Lecture ~United Arab Emirates edition~ Miyazaki City \*Free, Registration Required "Introduction to Arabic Calligraphy"

We're delighted to welcome Anshida from United Arab Emirates to lead a workshop where you can try writing your name in Arabic, using the beautiful calligraphy associated with the language. There will also be a talk about United Arab Emirates and Arabic calligraphy.

※The workshop will be in English, with Japanese interpreting provided

◆Date & Time: Dec 13 (Sat) 2:00pm – 4:00pm

◆Venue: Miyazaki Art Center (Creative Studio) 3F

◆Lecturer: Ms. Anshida Hamza (Exchange Student)

◆Spaces Available: 16 (First-come, first-served)

◆Fee: Free

◆To apply: Apply using the QR code or URL below. Applications by phone, email or in person are also welcome.

<https://forms.gle/AvvNKvPbPrapZiiDA>

◆Application Deadline: Nov 29 (Sat)

◆Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation



## International Understanding Lecture ~Jamaica edition~ Hyuga City \*Free, Registration Required

"Jamaican cooking class: Let's make some yummy chicken and pumpkin soup!"

Come make deliciously spiced chicken and pumpkin soup with Lynda, a Hyuga resident from Jamaica. You'll also get to hear about Jamaica and its language while the soup is simmering!

◆Date & Time: Dec 20 (Sat) 11:00am – 2:00pm

◆Venue: Hyuga City Central Community Center, cooking room

◆Lecturer: Ms. Lynda Gay

◆Spaces Available: 18 (First-come, first-served)

Elementary schoolers must be accompanied by a guardian

◆Fee: Free

◆To apply: Apply using the QR code or URL below. Applications by phone, email or in person are also welcome.

<https://forms.gle/NHEpN2ocqjHCTyTL6>

◆Application Deadline: Dec 6 (Sat)

◆Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation



## Hinata Japanese Classes Online Starter · Elementary 1 · 2 \*Free, Registration Required

Come learn Japanese on Zoom!

Hinata Japanese Class Online (Autumn course)

Sign up to learn useful Japanese for your everyday life in Miyazaki! Anyone who is living in Miyazaki Prefecture and able to use Zoom can take part. All you need is an internet connection at home and a PC, tablet, or smartphone! A qualified Japanese language teacher will teach you.

### 【Starter / Nyumon】

This course is for people who are learning Japanese for the first time, and who can read and write hiragana and katakana to some extent.

• Dates: Oct 15 (Wed)-Feb 4 (Wed) (The course consists of 30 lessons.)

• Days: Wednesday & Friday

• Time: 1:30pm-3:30pm

• Class size: 7 people



### 【Elementary 1 / Shokyu 1】

This course is aimed at people who have studied a bit of Japanese, and who can already read and write hiragana and katakana.

• Dates: Oct 14 (Tue)-Feb 3 (Tue) (The course consists of 30 lessons.)

• Days: Tuesday & Thursday

• Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

• Class size: 7 people

### 【Elementary 2 / Shokyu 2】

This course is aimed at people who can already read and write hiragana and katakana and make simple conversation in Japanese.

• Dates: Oct 15 (Wed)-Feb 4 (Wed) (The course consists of 30 lessons.)

• Days: Wednesday & Friday

• Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

• Class size: 7 people

Please see the following URL for class details and how to apply.

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

◆ Inquiries : Miyazaki International Foundation

If you are inquiring by email, please include "About Hinata Japanese Class" in the subject line.

TEL:0985-32-8457 E-mail:miyaiinfo@mif.or.jp



## 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: ①Oct 17 (Fri) 3:00pm - 4:00pm

②Oct 24 (Fri) 6:00pm - 7:00pm

◆ Registration Deadline: ①Oct 10 (Fri) ②Oct 17 (Fri)



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

◆ Date & Time: Oct 14 (Tue) 4:00pm - 5:00pm

◆ Registration Deadline: Oct 7 (Tue)



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

◆ Date & Time: Oct 30 (Thu) 3:00pm - 4:00 pm

◆ Registration Deadline: Oct 23 (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

The first time I boarded a train after moving to Miyazaki City, I was very confused by the unstaffed ticket gates and the train doors only opening on the front carriage. At the same time, I recalled my experience studying abroad in Canada after graduating from high school, when I would take the "Sea Bus" ferry to and from campus. There were bicycles and dogs riding alongside us, and the way everyone would freely chat and eat their breakfasts on the ride meant that when I came home to Japanese trains and buses, I got a dose of reverse culture shock. Public transport rules differ between countries and between cities, so I feel that being able to navigate them smoothly makes you feel like you've truly become a local. And so, at the start of August, I moved to the front of the train as usual to wait for the doors to open. Only this time for some reason when the train pulled into the station, all the carriage doors opened. It seems I still have a way to go on my road to becoming a true Miyazaki resident.

(Staff: Y)



## A Message from the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents

The Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents welcomes residents from abroad with questions or concerns related to their lives in Miyazaki.

【Open】 Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00 am - 7:00 pm  
TEL : 0985-41-5901 Fax : 0985-41-5902  
E-mail : [support@mif.or.jp](mailto:support@mif.or.jp)



## ((October Event))

Event	Date	Venue	Contact/Information
Obi Castle Festival	Oct 18 (Sat) Oct 19 (Sun)	Nichinan Area around Obi Castle	Nichinan City Tourist Association Tel: 0987-31-1134 <a href="https://www.kankou-nichinan.jp/">https://www.kankou-nichinan.jp/</a>
Kakashi Festival	Oct 11 (Sat) - 18 (Sat)	Miyakonojo City Yamada town Ichidōgaoka Park	Yamada General Branch Office Tel: 0986-64-1111 <a href="https://www.city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp/soshiki/22/77077.html">https://www.city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp/soshiki/22/77077.html</a>

## Confessions of a scaredy - cat

## "City Girl Culture Shocks"



**Miyazaki Prefecture CIR**  
**Katherine Kessler**

This month's Staff Tweet got me thinking about my own experiences with culture shock moving between cities. When I tell Miyazaki residents I'm from London, I often hear the remark "Ah, you're a city girl!" I don't quite know how to feel about the comment, as it seems to conjure up an image of someone much more immersed in vibrant city life than my sedate suburban upbringing would suggest. But having now lived in Miyazaki, periodically visiting both Tokyo and London, it strikes me that the cultural differences between large and small cities are just as noteworthy as those between countries.

One example: anonymity is impossible in Miyazaki. This is very likely also down to me being a foreigner so quite a bit easier to spot, and I'm hardly surprised when I run into a few familiar faces on my everyday walks around the city center. However, when I was informed by my the cashier at my nearest conbini that she'd seen me on TV on a ten-minute special about CIRs, or the time my driving instructor happened to hear my name on a local radio broadcast, it drove home how tightly connected a small place like Miyazaki is. The public transport differences are also notable. It took little time to be able to zip through the Tokyo Metro smooth as anything, but I still find myself falling afoul of Miyazaki's train and bus schedules, where "we'll just catch the next one" can mean the difference between getting somewhere in the afternoon or late evening. City girl, indeed.

I will say, however, that nothing gave me so much "reverse culture shock" as walking into a London Underground train in August this year, dismayed to find it hotter on the inside than on the platform. And whether city or countryside, I can at least rely on any Japanese train to depart on schedule!



## Introducing KOREA FESTIVAL 2025 in Miyazaki!!

To strengthen ties between Miyazaki Prefecture and Korea, we are holding KOREA FESTIVAL 2025 in Miyazaki, an experiential event that will allow people across the prefecture to get a taste of Korean culture, deepen their understanding of the country, and enjoy some of its unique delights. It's a chance to discover Korea while in Miyazaki. Don't miss out!!

◇Date & Time: Oct 11(Sat) 11:00am-5:00pm

◇Venue: Miyakonojo General Cultural Hall  
(Miyakonojo-shi Kitahara-cho 1106-100)

◇Program:

①Stage performances (1:00pm~3:30pm)

Come and enjoy performances on traditional Korean instruments, and the K-POP Dance Show!!

②Korean culture workshops

We will be running six culture workshops, including traditional Korean handicrafts and trying on hanbok.

◇Inquiries: International and Economic Exchange Division  
TEL: 0985(44)2623

More information here (Japanese) →



## Local Announcements

### 29th "Clean-up Miyazaki"

November is the official Month for Making a More Beautiful Miyazaki. This includes carrying out "Clean-up Miyazaki", where residents from across the prefecture unite to clean up their communities in a simultaneous prefecture-wide environmental beautification campaign. Get involved in cleaning up your neighbourhood!

◇Date & Time: Nov 9 (Sun)

◇Location: Beaches, rivers, roads, parks and residential areas selected by each municipality in the prefecture.

◇Description: Environmental beautification activities such as cleaning (Check with your local municipality for more details).

◇Inquiries: Miyazaki Environmental Improvement Promotion Association

TEL: 0985-51-2077 E-mail: [kankyo@miyazaki-kankyo.or.jp](mailto:kankyo@miyazaki-kankyo.or.jp)

