



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



Plaza Holiday Closing

The International Plaza will be closed on November 3rd (Tue) for the public holiday.



Japanese Speech Contest for Foreign Residents Participant applications open!

*Application Required



◇ **Date & Time:** February 7 (Sun) 1:00pm - 4:00pm

※ Please note that the schedule may change depending on the number of participants.

◇ **Topic:** ① Miyazaki ② My Dream for the Future ③ My Hometown

※ Speeches must not promote political, commercial or religious causes.

◇ **Location:** Kenden Hall (Miyazaki Prefecture Enterprise Bureau Building 1st floor) (Asahi 1-2-2, Miyazaki City)

◇ **Eligibility:** anyone who meets the following criteria

1. Those residing in Miyazaki prefecture, over the age of 16,
Whose first language is NOT Japanese

2. Have lived in Japan for LESS than 5 years

3. If preliminary screening is required, applicants must submit a video file.

※ Excluding those engaged in translation and/or interpreting work as part of their profession.

◇ **Divisions & Available Spaces:**

Student Division- around 10 / Open Division - around 10

*If there are a large number of applicants, entries will be screened.

◇ **Speech Length Limit:** up to 5 minutes (A point deduction will apply to speeches that exceed five minutes.)

◇ **Deadline:** December 15 (Tue)

◇ **How to Apply:** Please hand in your ① Application form (with a photo of yourself attached) and ② Speech script (romaji is also accepted), by one of the following methods; handed directly into the Foundation, by post, or by email.

*The application form can be downloaded online from the Miyazaki International Foundation homepage. For updates about preliminary screening and applications, please check the QR code or URL below.

<https://hinatanihongo.mif.or.jp/news/topics/2827/>



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



Introducing Hinata Nihongo Navi!



The Hinata Nihongo Navi is a web portal displaying information for foreigners in Miyazaki who want to learn Japanese, and Japanese residents who want to support with Japanese language learning. Check out the latest information through the link below.

The information is presented in English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and in Simple Japanese. Add this one to your bookmarks too!



Traditional Japanese Culture Experience Class: Sumo Learn the Rules of Sumo and Try It Yourself!

*Free / Registration required

◇ **Date & Time:** October 24 (Sat), 1:00pm - 3:00pm

◇ **Venue:** Hinata Budōkan Sumo Ring

(Miyazaki City, 2206-1 Kumano)

◇ **Spaces Available:** 20 (first-come, first-served)

◇ **Eligibility:** Foreign residents living in Miyazaki Prefecture

※ Women are welcome to participate.

※ If you have tattoos, please wear clothing that covers them.

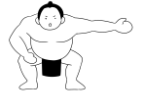
◇ **Participation Fee:** Free

◇ **How to Apply:** Applications accepted via the Google Form, in person, by telephone or email.

URL: <https://forms.gle/4m59epM93FPzXLRK6>

◇ **Deadline:** October 17 (Sat)

◇ **Enquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



Follow the Rules and Stay Safe! Cycling Workshop for Foreign Residents

*Free / Registration required



Do you usually get around by bike?

From April 2026, a blue ticket system has been introduced for bicycle traffic violations. Join us for a fun, practical workshop and learn how to cycle safely and confidently.

◇ **Date & Time:** November 7 (Sat), 2:00pm - 3:30pm

◇ **Venue:**

• Clear weather: Jidō Kōtsū Yūen (near Miyazaki Prefectural Welfare General Centre) 2-22 Haramachi, Miyazaki City

• Wet weather: Miyazaki International Plaza (CARINO Miyazaki B1) 4-8-1, Tachibana-dori Higashi, Miyazaki City

◇ **Spaces Available:** 20 (first-come, first-served)

◇ **Participation Fee:** Free

◇ **How to Apply:** Please register using the QR code or URL below. Applications can also be made by telephone or email.

◇ **Deadline:** October 30 (Fri)

◇ **Enquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



<https://d.quel.jp/16094219>

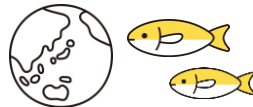


The next issue of Plaza News will be published on December 1.



International Understanding Lecture: Kiribati Edition 'The World Seen from Kiribati: The Resilience and Future of Island Nations'

※Free / Registration required



Have you ever heard of the country Kiribati?

We will welcome a speaker who was born in Japan and later became a citizen of Kiribati after developing a deep connection with the small island nation. In this lecture, he will share his passion for his adopted country. In the second half, there will be a panel discussion with individuals who have experience in international cooperation programmes in island nations like Kiribati, offering deeper insights into the challenges and resilience of small island states.

◇ **Date & Time:** October 31 (Sat), 2:30pm-4:30pm

◇ **Venue:** Miyazaki Prefectural Disaster Prevention Government Building, Rooms 57 & 58

◇ **Speaker:** Mr Kentaro Ono

◇ **Spaces Available:** 30 (first-come, first-served)

◇ **Participation Fee:** Free

◇ **How to Apply:** Please register via the QR code or URL below.

Applications can also be made by telephone, email or in person.

<https://forms.gle/j2ECXgzwmYQRpnun9>

◇ **Deadline:** October 24 (Sat)

◇ **Enquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



Fifth Hinata Japanese Language Exchange Meeting: Participants Wanted

This event is for people involved in Japanese language education in Miyazaki, those interested in Japanese language education and foreign residents. This is an opportunity to connect and share ideas about improving community-based Japanese language education in Miyazaki.

Why not join us to discuss the future of Japanese language education in the region?

◇ **Date & Time:** December 19 (Sat), 10:00am-12:00pm

◇ **Venue:** Kenden Hall (1-2-2 Asahi, Miyazaki City)

◇ **Participation Fee:** Free

◇ **Spaces Available:** 20

◇ **Eligibility:**

- Those involved in Japanese language education in Miyazaki Prefecture

- Those interested in Japanese language education

- Foreign residents living in Miyazaki Prefecture

◇ **How to Apply:** Please register via Google Form or apply in person, by telephone, or email.

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

◇ **Enquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



Local Announcements

<Miyazaki City>

World Terrace 2026 *Free

The World Terrace 2026 will take place on Saturday, 17 October at Ōyodogawa City Ryokuchi Park (near Miyazaki City Hall). The Miyazaki International Foundation will also be hosting a booth at the event.

This is a great opportunity to experience different cultures from around the world. We look forward to welcoming you!

◇ **Date & Time:** October 17 (Sat) 11:00am-5:00pm

◇ **Venue:** Ōyodogawa City Ryokuchi Park (near Miyazaki City Hall)

★For the latest information and details, please search for 'World Terrace in 2026' online.

Fees for residence procedures for foreign nationals will be revised from October 1, 2026.



Immigration and Immigration Control Agency Home Page TOP
<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/>



About Online Application ▶
<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/online/onlineshinsei.html>

A Message from the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents

Consultations available online

*Free, Reservation Required



The Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign residents provides a 'Zoom consultation' service for those who are unable to come to the center directly. Please send us your enquiry including the following information.

1. Your name
2. The date and time you would like to meet online
3. What you would like to discuss (ex. child rearing, school/education, medical care, Japanese language learning, status of residence in Japan etc.)

◇ Discussion reception desk opening hours:
Tuesday – Saturday 10:30am-12:00pm, 2:00pm-5:00pm

*Closed on Sundays, Mondays and National holidays

◇ Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents (Carino Miyazaki B1)

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

E-mail : support@mif.or.jp



The Sunny Side

"Finding the Real 'Hinata'"



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR
Sands Davies Finn

Hello everyone! My name is Finn. I'm the new Coordinator for International Relations for Miyazaki Prefecture. I'm originally from Devon, in the southwest of England and I moved to Miyazaki from Kyoto at the end of August this year.

When I first started looking into Miyazaki, one of the things that immediately caught my eye was its beautiful coastline, framed by rows of towering palm trees that seemed to go on forever. Having grown up in Europe, it all looked wonderfully tropical and I can remember thinking, 'I can't believe I'm actually going to live somewhere like this!'

Miyazaki is often described as Nippon no Hinata or 'Japan's sunny place'. However, I seem to have brought some gloomy British weather with me, as it has been largely grey and rainy ever since I arrived.

But it didn't take me long to realise that Miyazaki's 'sunshine' is about much more than the weather.

One day, I spotted a lost item carefully taped to a roadside post, so that whoever had dropped it would be able to find it again when they retraced their steps. I was just thinking, 'What a lovely thing to do,' when, almost on cue, something similar happened to me.

A member of staff from a café I had just left came sprinting down the street after me at what seemed like the speed of an Olympic athlete. My heart sank as I wondered whether I had forgotten to pay, until she triumphantly held up the umbrella I had left behind.

Since arriving, I've also had plenty of people strike up conversations with me, asking where I'm from and what brought me to Miyazaki.

These everyday encounters have already made me feel right at home. They have also made me realise that the 'sunny' part of Miyazaki is not just its blue skies, palm trees and balmy climate but also the warmth of the people who live here.

And that is exactly where the name of this column comes from: The Sunny Side.

In the months ahead, I hope to use this column to share some of my adventures around Miyazaki, the places and people

I discover along the way, as well as British culture and plenty of other topics.

Rain or shine, I'm looking forward to seeing what life in Miyazaki has in store.

