



Legend: ☆Events ◆Exhibitions ※Important Notices ▲Campaigns ●Child & Healthcare ✿Environment ☎Help Lines

NOAH DOLPHIN DOME

‘NOAH DOLPHIN DOME’ opened in spring 2025 in the urban resort town ‘Porto Mare,’ located in the Old Sakai Port area. With the theme of “Make your life better with dolphins,” this facility invites people of all ages, from children to seniors, with or without disabilities, to interact and play with dolphins throughout the year. Through activities such as dolphin care, displays, and hands-on experiences, visitors also gain opportunities to think about living creatures and the marine environment. Conveniently located just a short walk from the station, the facility is also close to hotels, restaurants and cafés, as well as Ohama Park. Why not enjoy interacting with dolphins in a comfortable semi-indoor pool during the hot summer?



Interactive programmes

- **Feeding experience:** 1,100 yen (no reservation needed; limited capacity). You can touch the dolphins and feed them. Young children must be accompanied by a guardian.
- **Shallow water play:** 7,700 yen (6,600 yen) (reservation required). Wear a wetsuit or chest waders and enter the water up to your waist to play with the dolphins. Approx. 15 minutes (Ages 5 and up; height 110 cm or taller)
- **Dolphin swim:** 14,300 yen (9,900 yen) (reservation required). Wear a wetsuit to interact with the dolphins and hold onto their dorsal fin as they swim through the pool. Even non-swimmers can participate safely with a life jacket. Approx. 30 minutes (Ages 5 and up; height 110 cm or taller)

Notes:

- All prices are tax included.
- Prices in () indicate the children’s rate (ages 4 through elementary school).
- Depending on the animals’ condition and health, the number of programme sessions, participant capacity may be changed, or even programmes may be cancelled without prior notice.
- In addition to the interaction programmes, training sessions are held about three times a day, and anyone can observe them up close free of charge without making a reservation in advance (entrance fee is necessary).

This time, we had the opportunity to observe a training session and try the dolphin feeding experience! It was amazing to be able to see the dolphins up close and touch them too. Their skin felt rubbery and smooth, and we learned that they enjoy physical contact with humans and are very friendly creatures.

Watching them swim so rapidly, reaching speeds of up to 30km per hour, was also mesmerizing. Why not fulfill your childhood dream and swim with a dolphin? For the overview of the facility, check the next page.

Aoi Napoli Umi Soba

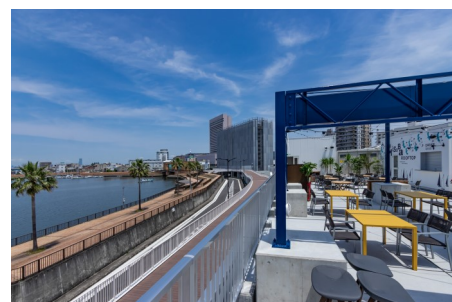
How about enjoying a delicious meal after being soothed by dolphins? An Italian restaurant with stunning views where you can enjoy authentic Naples-style wood-fired pizza, charcoal-grilled dishes, and home-made desserts! The spacious venue seats 180 guests and features a breezy rooftop area as well as a terrace where pets are welcome.

Address: Marina Bay Club 2F, 4-1-1 Ohamakita-machi, Sakai-ku, Sakai City

Tel: 072-242-3830

Opening hours: 11:00-22:00 (last order 21:00)

Scan the QR code to visit the website (Japanese)



※Survey cooperation request of City Life Newsletter readers

Thank you very much for your continued readership of our newsletter. As we transition our newsletter to a web-based format, we are conducting a reader survey to better understand your preferences and to use as a reference for future improvements. We greatly appreciate your cooperation. [Deadline for responses: End of September].



Detailed information on opening hours, admission costs, access etc. of Harvest Hill, Sakai City Museum, Mihara History Museum, Sophia Sakai, Alphonse Mucha Museum and Sakai Plaza of Rikyu and Akiko can be found on the Sakai City Government English website.

Museums &
Facilities



Events



Facility Overview of NOAH DOLFIN DOME

Address: 4-1-1 Ohamakita-machi, Sakai-ku, Sakai City

Phone number: 072-268-5548

Website: Scan the QR code

Closest station: 10 min walk from Sakai station (Nankai line)

Opening hours: Open year-round 10:00-20:00 (last entry 19:30)

Admission fee: Adults (junior high students and above) 1,210 yen, children (ages 4 through elementary school) 770 yen, children 3 and under are free.



☆ASEAN Photo Contest 2026

We invite you to submit photos that highlight the appeal of the ASEAN nations (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste & Vietnam) in scenery, people, history, culture and more. We also accept photos such as ASEAN food that you've made at home, or where you could feel the ASEAN culture in Japan, too.

The winners (the top 12 entrants) will be awarded famous goods of Sakai. In addition, the photographs of the top 50 entrants will be displayed between October 24th (Sat) ~ November 6th (Fri), on the first floor of Sakai City Hall high rise building.

Application period: Until 23:00, August 31st (Sun)

Application method: Sakai electronic application system (can't apply by post)

Application conditions:

- 1 photograph per person
- Must be 18 years or older. Can be amateur or professional.

- A photograph that the creator has not yet published (regardless of date of photoshoot)
- Do not infringe on the copyrights, portrait rights or any other rights of a third party
- Do not violate the laws, public orders and morals

- Photos cannot be overly photoshopped to add or erase objects (colour or saturation adjustments and trimming is allowed)

- 3.8million pixels or 2,200 x 1,600 pixels and over, either in JPEG/PNG style (less than 10MB)



The photo is a winning piece from last year. Scan the QR code for more details about the event (Japanese).

☆English Picture Book Live

Enjoy English picture book reading, hand games, and English songs! Free of charge, no registration required, come directly to the venue.

Date/time: August 23rd (Sun) 15:00-15:30 for preschool children and their guardians, September 27th (Sun) 15:00-15:30 for elementary school students

Location: Sakai City Kita Library, 3F *ohanashi* room (training room) (inside Kita Ward Office)

Access: 200 meters east from Exit 2 of Shinkanaoka station on the Osaka Metro Midosuji line. From Mikunigaoka station (JR Hanwa line/Nankai Koya line), take the Nankai bus and get off at Kita Ward Office stop and it is right in front.

◆Sakai City Museum Exhibition 'Parade of living things'

This exhibition focuses on the theme of living creatures, showcasing ceramic artifacts etc. excavated in Sakai's old moat area in collaboration with paper craft works by artist Kei Goto. In addition, a variety of related events will be held, including exhibit explanations, workshops, and talk sessions.



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ごとうけい



Date/time: Until September 6th (Sun)

Location: Sakai City Museum Exhibition Gallery

Scan the QR code for event details (Japanese)

◆"Let's take a closer look at our hometown Sakai" Exhibition: Kombu and Flowers

This is an exhibition of works by junior high and high school students combining kombu (kelp), a local specialty of Sakai, with ikebana (flower arrangement). Why not come and see an ikebana display that is unique to Sakai? Free admission.

Date/time: August 27th (Thu) ~ September 1st (Tue), opens at 10:00

Venue: Takashimaya Senboku store, 4F

Nearest station: Izumigaoka station (Nankai Semboku line)

☆GIORNO ARTE 2026 Art Aquarium

The glass walls inside the Giorno shopping mall in Sakaihigashi have been transformed into art! Local children dipped their hands in paint and created sea creatures, turning the space into something like an aquarium. Be sure to check it out while you're shopping! Free viewing.

Date/time: Until August 31st (Mon), 10:00-20:00

Venue: Giorno, 2F & 3F

Access: 200 meters south of Sakaihigashi station (Nankai Koya line)

☆Futon Daiko and Danjiri Festivals

Both of these are autumn traditional festivals of Sakai. At Futon daiko festivals you will see large portable shrines being shouldered and paraded around. At Danjiri festivals you will see large floats with exquisite wood carvings pulled by many people, with the highlight being the thrilling corner turns.

Futon daiko

The most renowned Futon daiko festival takes place at Mozu Hachimangu Shrine, with the following schedule:

September 26th (Sat): Procession into the shrine, 11:00-22:30

September 27th (Sun): Procession out of the shrine, 9:00-22:00

In addition to this, various Futon daiko festivals are held at multiple locations across the city during September and October.

Danjiri

The most renowned Danjiri festival is the Otori Taisha Danjiri Festival, held from October 2nd (Fri) to October 4th (Sun).

October 3rd (Sat): Ten Danjiri floats enter the shrine in the morning, followed by their departure.

October 4th (Sun): A Nishi Ward Danjiri Parade takes place around noon. In addition to this, various Danjiri festivals are held at multiple locations across the city during September and October. Scan the QR code to visit the Sakai Hyakucho website for detailed times and more.

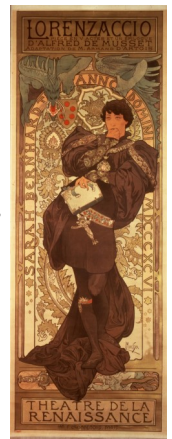


☆Mucha Art Exposition Returns

Alphonse Mucha was an artist who worked across a wide range of artistic genres, not only posters (prints), but also drawings, illustrations, oil paintings, murals, sculptures, jewellery, and interior design. The 2021 exhibition "Mucha Art Exposition" was highly acclaimed for presenting Mucha's diverse body of work in a setting inspired by the 1900 Paris Exposition. After a five-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this renewed exhibition is returning! As the excitement from the 2025 Osaka-Kansai Expo still lingers this season, the exhibition revisits the theme of "Mucha's Art Exposition," offering something for visitors of all ages, from children to adults, to enjoy, featuring works ranging from large-scale oil paintings to small postcards.

Date/time: August 1st (Sat) ~ November 29th (Sun)

Venue: Sakai Alphonse Mucha Museum



Alphonse Mucha, *Lorenzaccio*, 1896. Lithograph on paper. Collection of the Sakai Alphonse Mucha Museum (Sakai City).

※Beginners' Japanese Lessons

Date/time: September 25th ~ November 20th, every Tuesday & Friday, 14:00-16:00
Venue: Plaza of Multicultural Exchange Sakai

Eligibility: For people living, working or studying (at university etc.) in Sakai City
Content: Speak in Japanese with classmates and Japanese people about things you like or want to do. Study useful everyday conversational Japanese.

Fee: Free

To inquire/place of application: Plaza of Multicultural Exchange Sakai

To apply: Fill in the application form and fax, mail, email or hand-in directly

Application form: Scan the QR code



※Tax Payment

August is the second payment period for Municipal Inhabitant Tax, Prefectural Inhabitant Tax and Forest Environment Tax. The deadline is **August 31st**. Please make your payment by the deadline at your nearest financial institution, convenience store, etc. Payment can also be made using Pay-easy, mobile payment methods, and credit cards via the local tax payment site (eLTAX). Scan the QR code for the English user's guide on the website (eLTAX). For those using automatic withdrawal, the second payment for Municipal Inhabitant Tax, Prefectural Inhabitant Tax and Forest Environment Tax will be withdrawn on **August 31st** so make sure you have sufficient funds.



※Sakai Pools

Hot days are still continuing. Create fun summer memories at the pool! Scan the QR code for more information.



※Beware of Heatstroke!

Summer in Japan is very hot and humid. There are around 400,000 cases of heatstroke reported every year, with over 100,000 people needing emergency transport in 2025. Please seek help if you start to feel unwell in the extreme heat. Make sure to stay hydrated and avoid direct sunlight and hot environments. If someone loses consciousness or is unable to drink water by themselves, call 119 for an ambulance.



※Watch out for food poisoning!

There are many cases of bacterial food poisoning across the country from June to October every year. Please take the following measures to prevent it from happening to you.

- When buying food: Check the expiration date and level of freshness, only buy what you need and aim to purchase refrigerated and frozen foods last and store them away as soon as possible.
- Storage: Don't leave fridge door open for long periods of time, try not to overfill your fridge or freezer and keep meat and fish wrapped up well to prevent liquid leakage.
- When cooking: Always wash your hands before cooking, wash your chopping board and knives in boiled water to kill germs before you start cooking and make sure food is cooked thoroughly and to eat it as soon as possible. While barbecuing, keep chopsticks used for handling the raw meat separate from the ones used for eating.

※Sakai City Scholarships for FY2026 (High School Students)

A grant-type scholarship is available for households experiencing financial difficulties sending their children to senior high school etc. Financial assistance is granted to those selected, following a review of income and household conditions, prioritizing households with higher levels of need.

Application period: September 1st ~ 30th

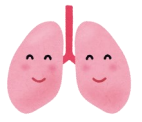
Application method: Ward Office, by mail, e-application, or hand-in to the School Affairs Division

Necessary documents for application: A copy of documentation showing the bank account in the high school students' name (bank book etc). Scan the QR code for more information.



※Tuberculosis and Respiratory Infections Prevention Week (September 24th ~ 30th)

The period before the autumn and winter seasons, when respiratory infections tend to spread, is designated as Prevention Week. Basic infection prevention measures such as wearing masks, practicing proper cough etiquette, handwashing, and ventilation are very important. Tuberculosis (TB) is not a disease of the past. In Japan, over 10,000 new TB cases are reported each year, and approximately 1,600 people die from it. More than 1,000 foreign-born individuals fall ill with TB each year, with increasing cases among younger age groups. Early symptoms of TB include coughing, phlegm, mild fever, chest pain, and fatigue. If a cough persists for more than two weeks, please consult a medical institution. Early detection not only prevents the condition from worsening but also helps stop the spread of infection to family members, coworkers, and others around you.



In Sakai City, residents aged 40 and over are eligible for **one free TB screening per year**. Scan the QR code for a list of participating medical institutions (Japanese).

※Emergency medical care during the Obon period

Please bring your My Number health insurance card, an eligibility certificate, and medical cost support certificates (for children, the elderly etc.). Please see the table below for the obon schedule. For more details about each institution, scan the QR code.



Emergency Hospital Hours For Obon

Sakai Children's Emergency Medical Center	Aug 8 th : 17:30-4:30 (next morning) Aug 9 th , 11 th , 15 th , 16 th : 9:30-11:30, 12:45-16:30, 17:30-4:30 (next morning) Aug 10 th , 12 th : 20:30-4:30 (next morning) Aug 13 th -14 th : 12:45-16:30, 17:30-4:30 (next morning)
Senboku Emergency Medical Center	Aug 8 th : 17:30-20:30 Aug 9 th , 11 th , 15 th , 16 th : 9:30-11:30, 12:45-16:30, 17:30-20:30 Aug 10 th , 12 th : No consultation Aug 13 th , 14 th : 12:45-16:30, 17:30-20:30
Sakai Dental Health Center	Aug 8 th : 17:30-20:30 Aug 9 th , 11 th , 16 th : 9:30-11:30, 12:45-16:30 Aug 10 th , 12 th : No consultation Aug 13 th -15 th : 9:30-11:30, 12:45-16:30 (+17:30-20:30 on 15 th only)
Chuo Emergency Medical Clinic in Osaka City (eyes, ears, nose and throat care)	Aug 8 th , 15 th : 15:00-21:30 Aug 9 th , 11 th , 16 th : 10:00-21:30 Aug 10 th , 12 th -14 th : 22:00-24:30

The Plaza of Multicultural Exchange Sakai (POME Sakai) can help you with language assistance for any of the processes in the city notices listed here. Check the back page for all their contact information!

Plaza of Multicultural Exchange Sakai

TEL: 072-228-7499

Email: kokusai@city.sakai.lg.jp

Address: 2-1 Minamikawara-machi, Sakai-ku (5F Sakai City General Welfare Hall)

Opening Hours: Sunday to Friday 9:00-17:30 (closed on public holidays and New Year's break December 29th to January 3rd)

General Consultations for Foreign Residents

Please drop by in person or call during these hours if you have any queries regarding daily life.

Mon to Fri 10:00-12:00 & 13:00-16:00

Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Portuguese, Spanish, and Thai.

***Tagalog, Indonesian and Nepali is only available for in person consultations.**

*Languages other than Japanese/English will be conducted through a 3-way call or through the use of translation devices and interpreting services.

Free Confidential Consultation

August 19th (Wed) & September 16th (Wed)

Consultations on naturalizations and immigrations with an administrative procedure specialists are available for discussing the status of or changes to applications. Three slots available (Reservations required). Those that require an interpreter must apply at least 10 days before the date of the consultation.



Volunteer Interpreter Service

Those who need interpretation can apply for a volunteer interpreter using the form available for download from the QR code. Please make sure to hand it in via post, fax or email **at least 10 days in advance**.



やさしい日本語 Facebook Page

POME Sakai has a Facebook page which posts about emergencies, disaster warnings, upcoming events, etc., in Easy Japanese. This is a great resource for those who want to attain information in Japanese.



Free Online Consultations for Foreign Residents

POME Sakai is also offering free online consultations using Zoom for foreign residents living, working, or studying at school in Sakai City, in 13 languages. Get advice from immigration and law experts regarding visa, marriage and divorce etc. Please make an appointment by phone or e-mail one week in advance of your consultation day.

Daily life: Available Mon-Fri (excluding public holidays and year end and New Year's period), 9:00-12:00 and 13:00-16:00

Immigration: September 4th, 11th 13:30-16:30

Labour: September 11th 13:30-16:30

Law: September 25th 18:00-20:00

Administration: Unavailable



Sakai City “Suirin すいりん” App for Waterworks

Download the official Sakai City Waterworks and Sewage Bureau app for these convenient features!

- Get notices about checkups and view past water usage and bills up to 2 years.
- Get digital bills delivered through the app and pay using PayPay or at a convenience store.
- Get confirmations of automatic withdrawal payments.
- Apply for temporary stop and start of water services.
- Pay bills with your credit card (registration required).

For more details and to download the app, scan the QR codes (Japanese).

For Android users



For iPhone users



Waterworks and Sewage Bureau Web-site



No smoking or littering on the street

The area in front of Sakaihigashi station, the public road on the south side, the squares in front of Sakai station (west and east), Oshoji street, and the area around the city hall are designated as non-smoking and no littering zones. Violations will result in an administrative fine of 1,000 yen. Additionally, the areas around the west side of Sakaihigashi station, Nakamozu station, Mikunigaoka station, Sakai station, Komyoike station, Fukai station and Izumigaoka station are designated as priority areas for improving smoking and littering manners. We appreciate your cooperation.



Emergency Numbers

110: Police

119: Fire or medical emergency (available in English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese and Vietnamese).

When you call 119, the operator will set up a three or four-way call with an interpreter/s. It can take up to 10 seconds to connect. Please stay on the line and do not hang up. For sudden injuries or illnesses, there is a national 'Guide for Ambulance Services'. It is available in multiple languages, so scan the QR code to access it.



Storing Water and Toilets in Case of Disaster

It is said that a person needs about 3 liters of water per day. Immediately after a major disaster, water supply will be cut off. Prepare three days' worth of drinking water to be ready for a disaster. From the fourth day after a disaster occurs, you will be able to receive water at evacuation centers. Prepare portable toilets for times when your home toilet cannot be used.



Parking Ban-Zones for Bicycles & Minibikes

Abandoned bicycles (including minibikes) obstruct the safe passage of pedestrians and the entry of emergency vehicles. The areas around 27 stations in Sakai City (within approximately 300 meters of railway stations, excluding the Hankai line) are designated as a parking ban zone for bicycles. Bicycles and minibikes left in the zone will be removed, and a removal and storage fee will be required for their return. Please park your bicycles and minibikes in designated parking areas. Scan the QR code for more information.



Obon (お盆) in Japan:

Obon (generally Aug. 13th ~ 16th) is an annual Buddhist event that commemorates the spirits of ancestors. The spirits are believed to temporarily return during this brief period.



Sakai City CIR Facebook & Instagram Accounts

