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City Life

ISSUE 184

October/November 2024 Edition

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City Life is a free English newsletter published every even-number month by the International Division at the Sakai City Government to provide information to the residents of Sakai City. It is available at libraries, ward offices and other city facilities, or you can view it online at the Sakai City Government English website. Don't forget to also sign up for emails to know when each new edition is published! Scan the QR code for more information. If you have any questions or feedback, or would like the paper version sent to you (free for foreign residents who live, work or study in Sakai), please contact Lena at the following email address: kokusai@city.sakai.lg.jp



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

☆51st Sakai Festival – Enjoy Sakai's heritage lasting for 1600 years – October 19th & 20th

From Sakaihigashi Station to Sakai Station spanning around 1km, including Uchikawa River and a part of Daidosuji Street, will be filled with festival colours! There will of course be the majestic 'Gun squad demonstration', the 'Carrying of Futon Daiko' and you can enjoy the fun stage, gourmet food, food trucks, a tea ceremony experience etc. and many other events!

(There is a possibility of a change in schedule. Cancellation in case of storm, go ahead rain or shine.) Check the QR code for our official page.

1 Mina Sakai Zone

Saturday 19th 16:00-21:00 (pre-event).

Sunday 20th 11:00-17:00.

Mina Sakai (in front of the city hall).

Stage events (until 18:00 on 19th) and food stalls.

Carrying of Futon Daiko only on 19th (18:30-20:30).

2 Citizen Street

Sunday 20th 11:00-16:00.

Yuya Elementary School ~ Pedestrian Bridge.

Magnificent street performances.

3 MIRAI SAKAI EXPO Street ※

Sunday 20th 11:00-16:00.

Yuya Elementary School Pedestrian Bridge ~

Ichinocho-higashi Intersection. Many booths

related to the EXPO and you can experience

different cultures through tea ceremony.

4 Gun Squad • Futon Daiko Street

Sunday 20th 11:00-16:00.

Kansai Electric Power Company ~ Oshoji

Intersection.

There will be heroic Futon Daiko performances

and matchlock gun demonstrations!

5 Family Street ※

Sunday 20th 11:00-16:00.

Sakai Police Station ~ Ichi Elementary School.

Exhibition of police cars, fire engines and

construction vehicles and sport workshops, etc.

6 Senshu Gourmet Circus

Sunday 20th 11:00-16:00.

Sakai Ebisujima Dock (Uchikawa Riverside).

Enjoy Senshu Area's local delights prepared by

Chefs.

7 Daidosuji Café Terrace ※

Sunday 20th 11:00-16:00.

From Hankai Line, Oshoji St. to Shukuin St.

Food stalls and food trucks will gather.

8 Hometown of Rikyu Tea Ceremony Zones

Nanshiji Temple: Saturday 19th 9:00-15:40.

Authentic and open air seating by 3 major tea

ceremony schools (1000 yen). Sakai Plaza of

Rikyu and Akiko: Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th

10:00-17:00.

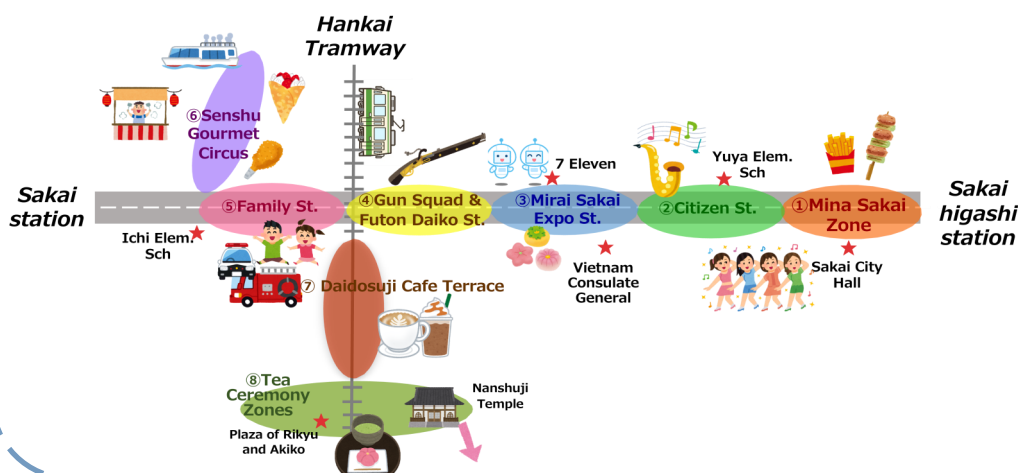
Authentic/casual indoor and open-air tea

ceremonies (800 yen). There is a chance that the

tickets may sell out.



※Pedestrian Zones



☆Sakai Multicultural Room ‘Mix-Smile’

Exchange between Japanese elementary and middle school students and students with foreign roots.

Date: A) October 5th (Sat) & B) December 14th (Sat)

Venue: A) Sakai City Government Mikunigaoka Building B) Japanese Garden, Daisen Park

Access: A) 1 min walk from Mikunigaoka Station B) 10 min walk from Mozu Station

Fee: A) Free B) 250 yen

Target: Sakai City elementary and junior high school students and their families

Capacity: A) 30 people B) 50 people (applications open until limit reached)

Application: From QR code A), B) (Japanese), for more details see QR code C (Japanese)



A)



B)



C)

☆Made in Sakai Fair 2024

Come see the “skill” and “masterpieces” of Sakai convene at this event with booths filled with local Sakai products, sweets and local traditional crafts!

Date/time: November 9th (Sat) & 10th (Sun) 10:00-16:00

Place: Sakai City Industrial Promotion Center, Event Hall Booths:

- Sakai goods market
- Sakai sweets festa
- Freshly harvested Sakai vegetable market
- Knife-sharpening
- Hand-crafting experience
- Fire, police and vehicle exhibition



◆Naka Ward Citizens Festival free event – Open Stadium Day and Children’s Baseball Classroom

We are holding a classroom for children to interact with Sakai Shrikes. They will have fun learning through playing catch ball and batting. During the open stadium you can interact with the players of Sakai Shrikes and get photos on the grounds where they usually play on. Please scan the QR code to apply.

Children’s Baseball Classroom: October 27th (Sun) 12:00-13:00 (required to apply, 50 elementary school students chosen by lottery).

Open Stadium: October 27th (Sun) 14:00-15:30 (no application required anyone can participate).

Venue: Baraike Park (Kura Sushi Stadium Sakai).

Application: Answer items 1)-4) and mail (2470-7 Fukaisawamachi, Naka-ku, Sakai City), FAX (072-270-8101), or email (nakajisui@city.sakai.lg.jp). Arrive by October 11th without fail.

1) The applicants (guardian’s) name with furigana, address 2) phone number you will answer during the day, 3) participants (child’s) name, age and 4) “Naka-ku citizens festival baseball classroom participation request.”

To protect the grounds you cannot enter the premise under the following conditions ① if you don’t wear exercise shoes, ② if you bring in food, or drinks without a lid, ③ if you have any bags with wheels. In order to confirm ① to ③, it may take time to enter.



☆ Futon Daiko and Danjiri Festivals



Both festivals are traditional autumn festivals of Sakai. You will see large portable shrines being shouldered and paraded around at futon daiko festivals. At danjiri festivals you will see giant floats with exquisite wood carving barreling down the streets pulled by many people. Futon daiko and danjiri festival will still happen around many places in October. For more details please scan the QR code.

☆Sakai Marche World Tea Gathering

Booths will be set up so you can enjoy tea from 5 countries and you can experience tea cultures around the world. We plan to have Sri Lanka’s black tea, Chinese tea, Korean Tea, Chai and Japanese Matcha (casual-style seating). Also, you can experience making Japanese traditional sweets. (Cancelled in case of stormy weather).

Date/time: November 10th (Sun) 10:00-16:00

Venue: Plaza of Rikyu and Akiko

Fee: 800 yen

Capacity: Each tea booth 6 people/session, Ryurei (casual-style) Japanese tea ceremony 30 people/session (depending on the conditions you may have to wait).

Application: From the QR code accepting from October 1st



☆Czech Festival 2024 in Kan-sai

The sixth year of this highly popular event. Enjoy 3 days of Czech culture, such as Czech cuisine, beer & wine, folk music and more!

Date/Time:

October 25th (Fri) 16:00-21:00

October 26th (Sat) 11:00-20:00

October 27th (Sun) 11:00-19:00

Place: Mina Sakai (in front of the city hall), 3-1 Minamikawaramachi, Sakai-ku

Admission: Free



☆ASEAN Movie Festival 2024

Date/time: November 26th (Tue)

※Doors will be open 20 mins before starting.

① 10:45~ “Father and Son” (Cha Cong Con). Vietnamese (2017/90 mins/Japanese subtitles).

② 14:00~ “My Country My Home” Japanese and Burmese (2018/130mins/English subtitles throughout plus Japanese subtitles

for Burmese part).

Venue: Fenice Sakai small hall (8 min walk from Sakaihigashi station)

Fee: Free, come directly to the venue (Capacity: about 250/session). For more details scan the QR code (Japanese).

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◆ASEAN Photo Contest Exhibition

Date: October 22nd (Tue) ~ November 4th (Mon, substitute holiday).

Time: 8:00-21:00 (from 8:30 on weekends and public holidays)

Location: Sakai city hall, high rise building, 1F entrance hall.

Admission: Free.

Around 50 picks, including the winning entries, from this year’s ASEAN Photo Contest will be displayed. Come enjoy the aesthetics of Southeast Asian countries taken by both amateurs and professionals!



☆ Otohime’s Holiday Festival in Sakai Old Port 2024

Why don’t you walk to the seashore from Nankai Sakai station and feel the sea breeze? You can enjoy all kinds of gourmet foods, workshops that children can join, music by artists and you can also experience a leisurely boat ride. Canceled in case of stormy weather, for details check the QR code (Japanese).

Date/time: October 5th (Sat), 6th (Sun) 11:00-18:00

Venue: Old Sakai Port (Area around 5 Ebisujima-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai)

Fee: Food stalls and activities are fee-charged



Please scan this QR code for more information regarding the facilities of the museum and parks in Sakai City.



● Orange & Purple Ribbon Campaign



November is Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month (orange ribbon) and November 12th ~ 25th marks the End Violence Against Women Campaign (purple ribbon). Hotlines are available outside of the campaign period as well. For more information scan the QR code above.



◆FY 2024 Sakai City Future Support Scholarship Application

Sakai City will grant a scholarship of 120,000 yen per year to those who have difficulty in attending university etc. due to financial hardship. Through a screening, we will prioritize students with higher grades. (Quota: 120 people).

Eligibility is based on those who meet all the conditions below:

- Students who are receiving the merit-based scholarship from Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) (from 1st to 3rd division) from April to September this fiscal year.
- The student in question or their family must have lived in the city for a continuous period from April 30th, 2024 to the date of application.
- From a 5 level, 0-4 scale, grades are an average of 3.0 or higher. 1st year university students will be judged on their first to last year of high school grades, second year and above university students will be judged on their 1st year university grades up until the date of application.

Application period: October 1st ~ 31st

Please send documents that show your grades and the application form. If the documents that show your grades are sealed, submit without opening it. If it is not sealed, you can upload and submit the documents electronically. You will be given notice via mail around the end of January about the screening result.

● Specific Health Examination

Those aged 40-74 years old who are covered by the National Health Insurance are eligible for a specific health examination once a year. We are providing this examination for early detection of life-style related diseases. Those who are eligible will be sent the image to the right, a check-up ticket/card, etc.

Please apply directly at a medical institution written in the enclosed guide. You can also find medical institutions through this QR code.



(Japanese)



※Let's keep the 5 rules of bicycle safety



The 5 rules of bicycle safely are based on the safe use of bicycles. Bicycle users must keep the rules and by knowing the bicycle rules, the pedestrians and car drivers must keep the safety together.

1. Generally, bicycles pass on the left side of car lanes. When passing on a sidewalk, give way to pedestrians.
2. At an intersection, stop to check safety and follow traffic lights.
3. Use your lights during night time.
4. Don't drink and ride.
5. Wear your bicycle helmet.



※Health Insurance Deadline for October and November

If you do not make payments from pension, the deadline for national health insurance payments (June through to March 2025) is the **last day of every month**, aside from December which is the 25th. The deadline for elderly person health insurance payments is the **last day of every month** between July and March 2025, aside from December which is January 4th, 2025 (December 28th for account transfer). Please make sure to pay by the due dates below:

October: October 31st (Thur)
November: December 2nd (Mon)

● Childcare Service Application

Application for childcare services for next fiscal year (April 2025 onward) will be accepted until **17:30 on October 18th** at the Child-raising Support Division (子育て支援課 *kosodateshienka*) at each ward office (closed weekends and public holidays). Online applications are open until 23:59 on October 18th. Information on usage and application are available at each Child-raising Support Division.

To use the childcare service, it is necessary for the guardian(s) to meet certain conditions regarding employment, pregnancy, nursing care, after-birth care, illness/disease or disabilities.



● Applications Open for those wanting to enroll in After-school Care from April 2025

Online applications will be accepted from **November 1st 0:00 until November 29th, 23:59**. You can also submit the form directly or mail it to the After-School Children Support Division, from November 1st ~ 29th (9:00-17:30, excluding weekends and public holidays).

Forms will be available from October 24th until November 29th at Nobinobi Rooms, Sakaikko Clubs and Hokago Rooms, as well as the City Hall Administrative Information Centre and Ward Office Administrative Information Corners.



☆Sakai City Museum

Kansai Culture Day

Free entrance.

Date: November 23rd (Sat) & 24th (Sun).

Make a helmet or haniwa

Make a haniwa figure, a kofun-shaped bookmark or mini ancient helmet.

Date/time: October 5th (Sat).

①10:00-12:00 ②13:30-15:30

To apply: Prior reservation not necessary, can join on the day (free

participation).

Make coloured magatama jewel

Make magatama jewellery from talc, which was popular during the Kofun period using the original colours.

Date/time: November 10th (Sun)

①10:00-12:00 ②13:30-15:30.

Fee: 300 yen.

To apply: Prior reservation is necessary.

From October 9th, 10:00 accepting reservations by phone only. (072-245-6201).



☆Mihara History Museum

Kansai Culture Day

Free entrance.

Date/time: November 16th (Sat) & 17th (Sun) 9:30-16:30

You can explore the exhibition room and the building in the Kurohimeyama Kofun's history square where you can challenge yourself with a worksheet and receive a participation prize.

Ryurei tea ceremony

Date/time: November 17th (Sun)

10:00-15:00.

Venue: MC Hall (tbc).

Capacity: First 50 people.

Fee: 500 yen (application unnecessary).

MC Gallery Exhibition

My favourite! Art Exhibition 2024

An art exhibition of scenic photos by a photography enthusiasts group based in Sakai.

Date/time: October 13th (Sun) ~



November 10th (Sun) 9:30-17:00.

Panel Exhibition on the World Heritage Mozu-Furuichi Kofun Group

Date/time: November 16th 9:30-17:00, November 17th 9:30-15:30.

Mihara Market Autumn Harvest Festival

You can buy freshly harvested wild rice and fresh vegetables grown in Mihara. There is also a booth selling kofun specialties.

Date/time: November 17th (Sun)

10:00-15:00.

Venue: MC Hall and around.

Bell-ringing experience

Ring the temple bell of Kawa-chi foundry and become transported back in time.

Date/time: October 6th and November 3rd 10:00-15:00 (first Sunday of every month).

Cancelled if rainy.

Cost: Free.

Place: Near the parking entrance.



POME
Sakai

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 29 December to 3 January).

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

October 16th & November 20th, 14:00-17:00.

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.



Online Consultation

The Plaza of Multicultural Exchange Sakai are offering free online consultations using Zoom for foreign residents living, working or studying in Sakai City, in 13 languages. Get advice from immigration and law experts. Please make an appointment by phone or e-mail one week in advance of your consultation day.

Labour: November 18th (Mon) 13:30-16:30

Law: November 22nd (Fri) 18:00-21:00

Immigration: November 24th (Sun) 13:30-16:30

Daily Life: November 26th (Tue) & 28th (Thur) 13:30-16:30

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 started 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.



※ My Number Card

If you have My Number card you can use it as your health insurance card!

(It is necessary to get it registered after receiving it for the usage as a health insurance card).

The issuance of the current health insurance card ends on December 2nd 2024.

The health insurance card valid as of December 2nd will still be used for maximum one year. However, the new system where you use My Number card as health insurance card (Myna Health insurance card) will become mainstream. Scan the QR code to find out about My Number card in general.



Myna health insurance card



☎ “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 up to 2 years of past water usage and bills
- Get digital bills delivered through the app and pay using PayPay or by showing the barcode at your local 7-Eleven or Ministop.
- Get confirmations of bank transfer payments
- Apply for temporary stop and start of water pipes
- Pay bills with your credit card (registration required)



※ Tax Notice

October will be the third appointed time for the City and Prefectural Resident Tax and Forest Environment Tax. The deadline is **October 31st (Thur)**. Please pay at the nearest banking facility, convenience store etc. Payment can also be made using pay-easy, mobile payment methods and credit card. For those that use the automatic transfer, the payment will automatically be deducted on **October 31st (Thur)**, so please check that you have sufficient funds.

☎ Sakai City CIR Social Media

This is run by yours truly! I mainly post information on what's happening in Sakai, from upcoming events to emergencies & disaster warnings. It's operated completely in English.



※ Be Careful of Hornets!! Don't Provoke Them!

Hornets are especially active around now until the end of October so it's important to stay vigilant. Hornets instinctively protect their nest so they will threaten you if you approach it.

If you get stung:

- Pinch the area that was stung to squeeze out the poison and run it under a tap with cold water.
- Apply an antihistamine salve (it will lessen the pain quicker).
- If you feel abnormally lethargic, feverish, dizzy, or experience accelerated heartbeat or nausea, you might be in anaphylactic shock and should consult your doctor immediately.



Hornets prey on pests such as hairy caterpillars and stink bugs, and therefore are an important part of the ecosystem. If their nest is not directly interfering with your daily activities, please leave them alone.

Please also be advised that the city does not provide extermination services for hornets. If extermination is necessary, please contact a company directly (at your own expense).



Kōyō - “Autumn leaves” Momiji - “Maple leaves”



This word has two readings and both originally meant autumn leaves, however the meaning has separated in recent days.